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FC FLOWER COMICS

フラワーコミックス

Piece ピース [Volume.3]

Betsucomi FLOWER COMICS

Piece ピース [Volume.3]

FC 2775

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Piece ①~③

Derby Queen

Girls Lesson

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①Homemade Home

②

•

MISS

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FAN BOOK

★

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①

②

③

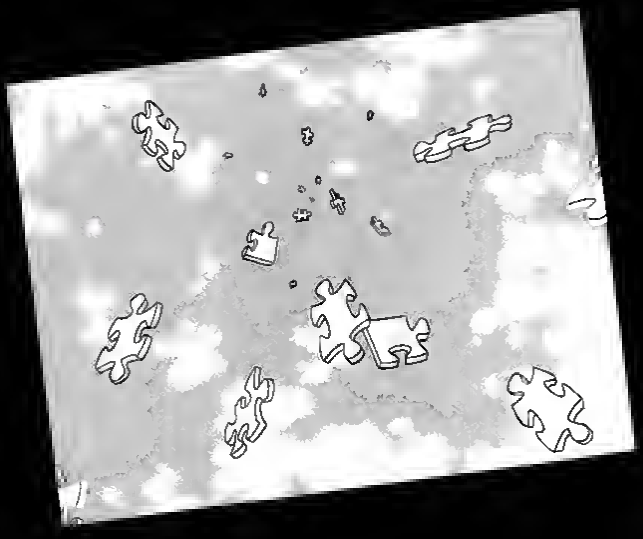
FC☆ファイル Let's アクセス

Cover design／

Piece③

Piece

[Volume.3]



Piece [Volume.3]

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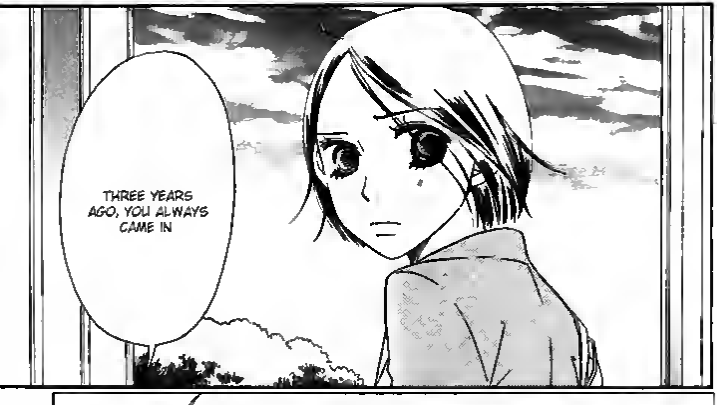
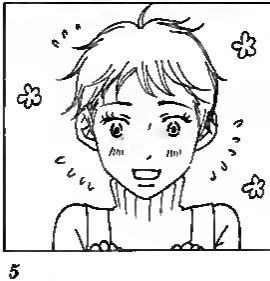




Mizuho's Mom

She tries her hardest to be the perfect housewife. Although she just wants to be accommodating, she ends up overdoing it and putting everyone on edge. High-strung and timid, kind of like a small animal.

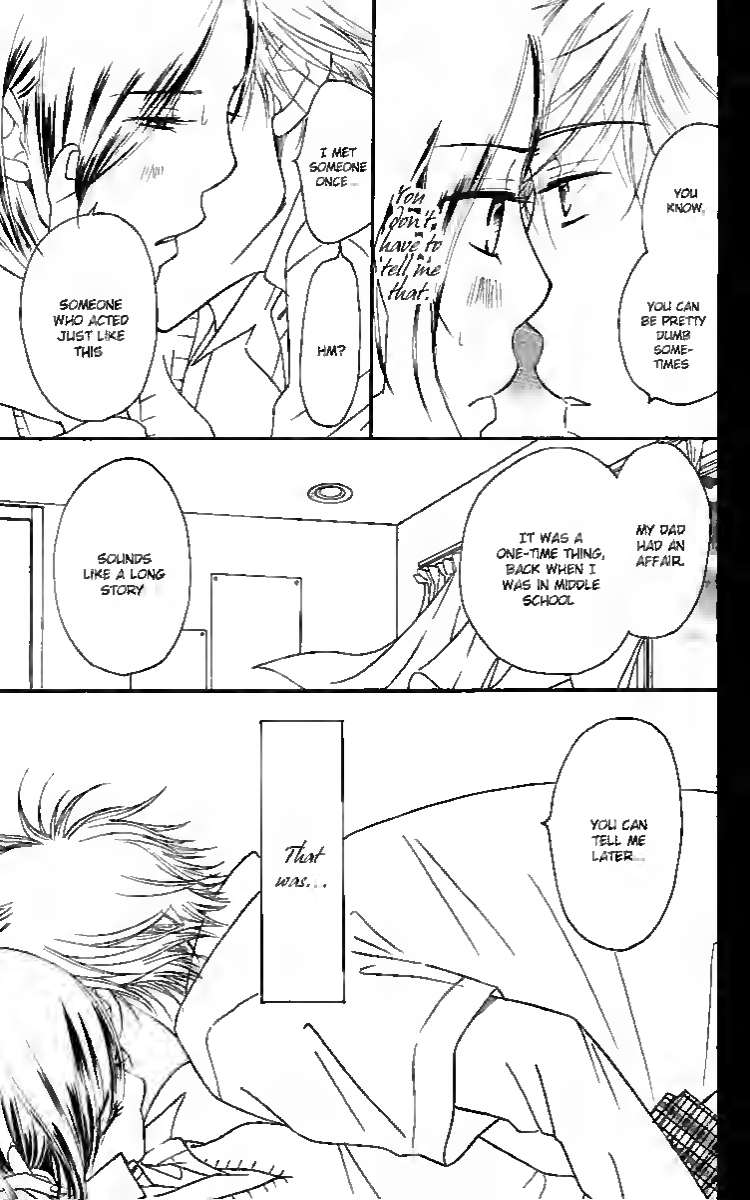
Three years ago...
That was when I first went to Narumi's house.
I remember it clearly.
COME IN.
Story

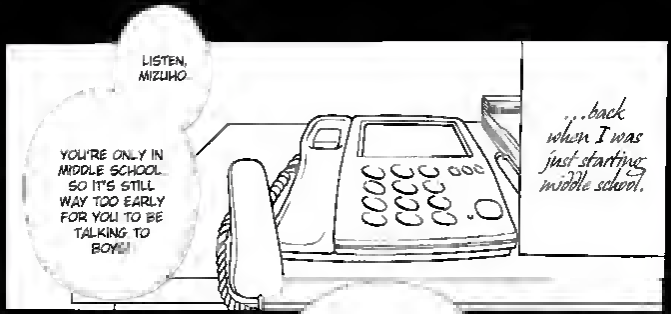
I never thought...
...that I would be able to handle
a guy like him.
"LOOKS LIKE NARUMI'S GOT A NEW GIRLFRIEND AGAIN."
"IT'S LIKE HE HAS SOME KIND OF DISEASE."
I should stay away from him, I thought.
"NO GIRL IS SAFE WHEN HE'S AROUND."
And yet...

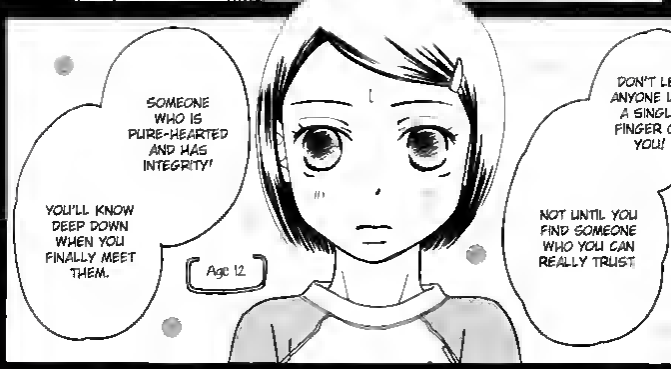
Naruni live?...
-3 years before-
...in this big house all by himself.
I went to this house.
Holding Naruni's hand,
...without knowing what exactly what came over me,
I got on the bus.
Three years ago, in the summer of my sophomore year...
"ARE YOU GETTING ON OR NOT?"

NISHIDA REMI
NISHIDA REMI
Mizuho? Where are you?
HELLO?
Pi
Pi
Pi

THEY'LL BE FINE. THEY'RE NOT MIDDLE-SCHOOLERS
PEEP
AREN'T THEY GOING TO BE UPSET WITH YOU LATER?
WAS THAT REALLY OKAY?
Boooooop
Boooooop
CALL ENDED
Maybe next time then
BOOP
IT'S JUST KARAOKE...
HAHA
THEY WOULD NEVER LET ME LIVE IT DOWN...
Ugh
THEN WHY DID YOU FOLLOW ME BACK HERE?
ABOUT YOU AND ME DOING THIS SORT OF THING TOGETHER.
WE NEED TO BE CAREFUL TO NOT LET MY FRIENDS LEARN ABOUT THIS.
ABOUT WHAT?
BUT THAT REMINDS ME


I MET SOMEONE ONCE...
SOMEONE WHO ACTED JUST LIKE THIS
HM?
You don't have to tell me that.
YOU KNOW,
YOU CAN BE PRETTY DUMB SOMETIMES
SOUNDS LIKE A LONG STORY
IT WAS A ONE-TIME THING, BACK WHEN I WAS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL
MY DAD HAD AN AFFAIR.
That was...
YOU CAN TELL ME LATER...


LISTEN, MIZUHO.
YOU'RE ONLY IN MIDDLE SCHOOL SO IT'S STILL WAY TOO EARLY FOR YOU TO BE TALKING TO BOYS!!
...back when I was just starting middle school.


SOMEONE WHO IS PURE-HEARTED AND HAS INTEGRITY!
YOU'LL KNOW DEEP DOWN WHEN YOU FINALLY MEET THEM.
Age 12
DON'T LET ANYONE LAY A SINGLE FINGER ON YOU!
NOT UNTIL YOU FIND SOMEONE WHO YOU CAN REALLY TRUST

Any time a boy in my class called she would overreact.
Ever since I was little, Mom has been super fussy and overprotective of me.
"Me" Time!
Saturday 2:00 PM
Bring a pen and paper!
AHHH THEY'RE GOING TO BE TALKING ABOUT THIS IN CLASS TOMORROW.
MIZUHO'S NOT HERE!
Saito O-Oh!
YOU UNDERSTAND ME? NOW I'LL JUST GO AHEAD AND TURN DOWN THIS SAITO FOR YOU.
WAIT... SAITO IS JUST CALLING ABOUT SOMETHING THAT HAPPENED IN CLASS TODAY...
This is a misunderstanding!!!

FALLING IN LOVE REALLY IS A WONDERFUL THING

HOWEVER!

WHAT BOYS REALLY WANT IS A CHASTE GIRL THAT THEY CAN TREASURE

IF PEOPLE TELL YOU YOU'RE BEING OLD-FASHIONED JUST IGNORE THEM.

YOU HAVE TO BE CAREFUL WITH WHO YOU LISTEN TO ABOUT THESE THINGS

Every one of the lines from her lectures was just something that she picked up from some TV show or book.

In the cupboard behind the cookbooks, tucked away from view...

COFFEE TIME

April 24th

Sexual Education for Teens
Hitting Puberty

The Warning Signs to Watch For

As A Mother. As A Wife

ON JAPANESE HOSPITALITY

Classic Side Dish Recipes
THE RIGHT WAY TO MANAGE YOUR HOME

A Bento 365 A Day

Authentic Italian Cuisine

...that's where she stashed her sources of information

Mom was always desperately trying to be a "proper mother" or a "proper wife."

Hmmm

And in the middle of all that, my dad was having an affair.
WAH, LOOK AT THAT OLD GUY GO!
RIGHT OUT IN THE OPEN!
CAROL AND THE MAGICAL CHOCOLATE
Dad was always so right at home
I thought that was just how he was deep down, but..
LOVEY-DOVEY
Is this really how adults are!?
HIDES
That's my dad!
CAROL AND THE MAGICAL CHOCOLATE
I'D NEVER TALK TO HIM AGAIN
IF THAT WAS MY DAD I WOULD JUST DIE.
HE SHOULDN'T EVEN BE ALIVE
HE DOESN'T DESERVE TO BE MARRIED
DOESN'T SHE LOOK TOO YOUNG TO BE HIS WIFE?
That's...

HEY, MOM...
DROPS
YESTERDAY I SAW SOMEONE WHO LOOKED JUST LIKE DAD AT THE MOVIE THEATER.
DIDN'T HE SAY HE WAS GOING GOLFING WITH HIS BOSSES YESTERDAY THOUGH?
.....
SHE KNEW...
IT MUST HAVE BEEN YOUR IMAGINATION!
twitch
twitch
MAYBE THEY JUST LOOKED SIMILAR?
OR IT WAS A DOPPEL-GANGER?
THE SOLUTION
Ah! That's bad real bad!
If you start accusing your man of an affair it'll only get worse!
I see this all the time. You've just got to pretend not to notice!
Just wait at home minding your own business, with a smile on your face and a tasty dinner when gets back!
But if you investigating, it'll only get worse!
Before long he'll just get bored of her and come back to you!
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
He'll start taking his affair even more seriously!
AHAHAHAHA
Um... who are you pointing at?
Classic Side Dish Recipes
How to Win Back Your Husband's Love
Counseling for Husbands and Wives
When to Forgive Your Husband
How to Win Back Your Husband's Love
She bought more.

Fsssh
bzzzt
bzzzt
Fsssh
scrub
scrub
MOM, WHERE'S DAD?
His phone is
HE'S TAKING A BATH.
bzzzt
bzzzt
Bzzzt
WORK
CLICK!
SHIN-CHAN?
BEEP
Hello Shin-chan? Sorry about calling you while you're at home
It's about our plans for tomorrow
DAD IS
TAKING A BATH RIGHT NOW
BOOOOOP

I just thought that
Mom needed my help
SORRY FOR MAKING YOU COME ALL THE WAY OUT HERE
CALL HISTORY
PEEP PEEP
.....
...BREAK UP WITH MY DAD
PLEASE
WHAT YOU'RE DOING IS MORALLY WRONG...
ummm... shouldn't you know why?
YOU CAME HERE TO LECTURE ME?! YOU'VE GOT SOME NERVE!
AND HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO LET THAT SIT THERE!?
WHY SHOULD I?
It's starting to melt
I DECIDED TO BE NICE AND ORDER THAT FOR YOU, SO YOU BETTER EAT IT ALL!
B-BUT I...
WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SO IN THE FIRST PLACE?!
I DON'T REALLY LIKE WHIPPED CREAM...
Do you think you're being cute?
BANG!
so... even though you ordered it for me...

NOM
NOM
NOM
THE CREAM'S JUST TOO SWEET FOR ME
UM. ALL THIS IS MAKING MY MOM MISERABLE
HOW DOES IT MAKE YOU FEEL THOUGH?
It's hard to see her like this
WHAT?
MOST GIRLS IN YOUR POSITION
...WOULD BE HAVING A MUCH STRONGER REACTION
YOU SEEM AWFULLY CALM ABOUT ALL OF THIS
Even though you're so young
BE HONEST WITH ME
YOU DON'T REALLY CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR FATHER, DO YOU?
THAT'S...
YOU PROBABLY THINK THAT
HE DOESN'T LIKE YOU VERY MUCH
HE TOLD ME ONE TIME
HOW YOU RESEMBLE HIS MOTHER.
YOUR GRANDMOTHER

ALWAYS STRICT AND SERIOUS,
COLD AND UNFEELING.
SHE WAS UNRELENTINGLY CRITICAL OF HIM
HE COULD NEVER RELAX KNOWING THAT SHE WAS AROUND
THAT'S PROBABLY WHY HE HAS A HARD TIME DEALING WITH YOU
AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT HE TOLD ME...
STAB
"I'LL MARRY SOMEONE WHO IS THE EXACT OPPOSITE OF MOM."
THAT'S WHAT HE DECIDED.
SOMEONE KIND WHO WOULD ALWAYS BE SUPPORTIVE OF HIM
SOMEONE WHO WOULD NEED HIM TO MAKE ALL THE DECISIONS
BUT THAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP IS FRUSTRATING IN ITS OWN WAY...
AND SOMETIMES HE JUST GETS ANNOYED BY IT ALL
I MEAN, SURE HE MIGHT BE A STRICT PERSON...
DAD IS...
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN...
IT DOESN'T MEAN HE DOESN'T CARE ABOUT ME...
SO HE WOULD NEVER...
SNIFFLE
.....

WHAT?!
YOUR FATHER AND I BROKE UP YESTERDAY
This is pretty pathetic of me to take this out on a middle schooler.
Huh? ! ! !
I'M SORRY, I'M JUST HAVING A HARD TIME COPING
Haaah
I JUST FEEL SO WORTHLESS NOW
IT HAPPENED SO FAST. HE DIDN'T EVEN HESITATE.
WHEN I TOLD HIM THAT YOU CONTACTED ME, HE GOT SCARED AND SAID WE NEEDED TO BREAK UP.
HE DUMPED ME
STILL...
I CAN'T SAY THAT I WASN'T HAPPY WHEN I WAS WITH HIM.
BUT EVEN I CAN SEE THAT I'VE BEEN ACTING LIKE AN IDIOT
But he...
My Dad DID that...
I-I'M SO SORRY!
that just happened because of what I did.
Do you have any idea how embarrassing this is for me?
DON'T APOLOGIZE TO ME!

IT ALMOST FELT LIKE HE WAS MY BABY...
HE WOULD FIT PERFECTLY INTO MY ARMS...
JUST LIKE THIS...
AND I WAS SO HAPPY...
WHENEVER HE SHOWED UP AT MY DOOR
HE WOULD HAVE THE MOST TIRESOME EXPRESSION ON HIS FACE...
THEN HE WOULD GO TO SLEEP...
AND HE WOULD LOOK SO PEACEFUL...
HE'D COME INSIDE AND WE WOULD EAT DINNER TOGETHER SOMETIMES HE WOULD EVEN COMPLIMENT MY COOKING
I DON'T EVER WANT...
...TO FALL IN THAT KIND OF POISONOUS LOVE EVER AGAIN.
THE FEELING WAS SO STRONG, I NEVER WOULD HAVE BE ABLE TO ESCAPE IT ON MY OWN
STANDS
SO... I SHOULD BE THANKING YOU
YOU SAVED ME
BUT THAT HAPPINESS...
...IT STARTED TO FEEL MORE AND MORE LIKE AN ADDICTION

On that day...
...she simply ceased to exist.
He didn't say a word to me about her.
He just went about his business as usual.
The next day, dad came home early for the first time in a long time.
Welcome home!
Sometime later, mom got it into her head that I should start working.
YOUR FATHER AGREES!
NOWADAYS, GIRLS NEED TO GET JOBS TOO!
YOU COULD TRY WORKING PART-TIME AT MY FRIEND'S COMPANY.
What do you think?
I GUESS THAT WOULD BE OKAY...
It was something that she learned from TV.
Isn't there something about an independent woman that just makes her shine?
So if I'm "independent," then I'll be able to contribute meaningfully to a relationship too?
I have to admit though, adjusting to married life wasn't quite as easy as I imagined!

...to be like either of them.
I don't want...
How to Win Back Y Husban Lov
As A Mother As A Wife
Not someone who blindly entrusts my happiness to others.
And not someone who is led in circles...
...end-lessly...
...by blind emotions.
Damn it!
I don't want to be like them!
THAT'S ENOUGH!
MMMM-PHH
A-ALL RIGHT, NARUMI

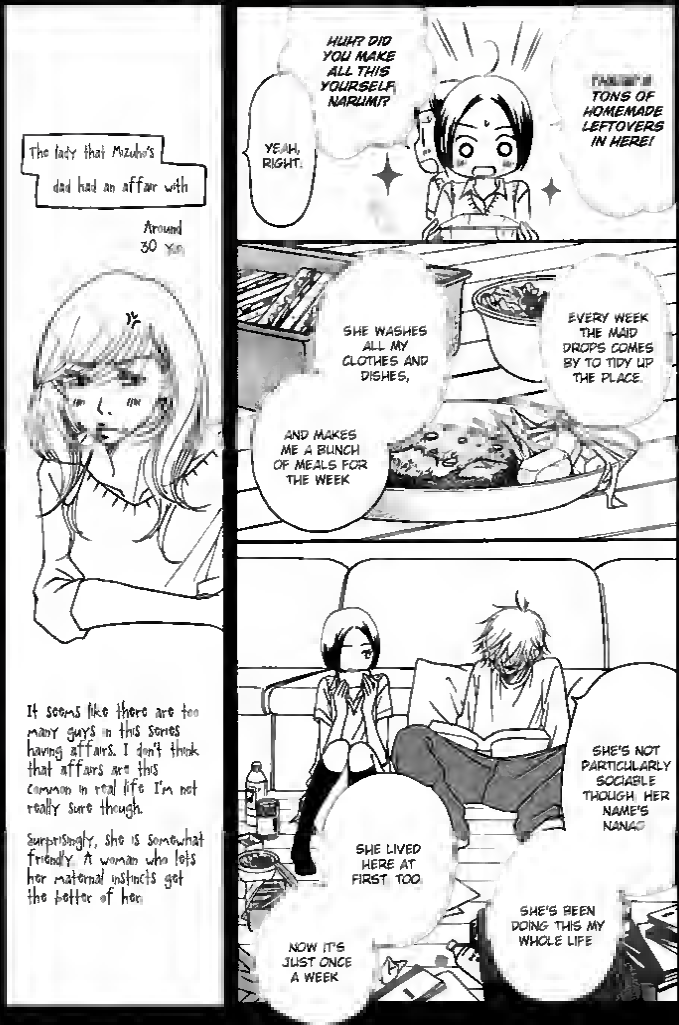
C-
CUT IT OUT!
WHAAA AA-?!
AHAHA... SORRY
I CAME TO MY SENSES AT THE LAST MOMENT
WELL... THAT WAS UNUSUAL WE NEVER GO THAT FAR, HUH?
what were you expecting, some smutty manga ending?
YOU CAN'T EXPECT ME...
I refuse!
TO COME THIS FAR AND THEN JUST STOP. THAT'S JUST CRIMINAL.
ACK!
IF YOU STOP, I'LL BUY YOU ICE CREAM!
ICE CREAM?!
what am I, five years old?!
you're just chickening out!!
WHAT? NO GOOD? THEN I'LL BUY YOU LUNCH FOR A WEEK.. NO, A MONTH!
I'll even sun crumbs for you!
I'll do your chores too!
and your school work!
geez, saga
what's the big deal?

Huh?
DO YOU HATE IT WHEN I TOUCH YOU?
Strangely enough..
IT'S NOT THAT I HATE IT I JUST..
HMMM?
Are you just embarrassed or something?
AH
NO IT'S NOT THAT..
I didn't dislike it one bit.
BATH-ROOM..
WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
I was just afraid of what would have happened next.
SO LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT...
FSSHHHHHH

BAM!
FSSSHHHHHH
YOU THINK KISSING IS OKAY BUT SEX IS OFF-LIMITS?
THAT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE, YOU KNOW?
IT MAKES PLENTY OF SENSE THEY'RE TWO DIFFERENT THINGS.
NO THEY AREN'T YOU'RE JUST SWAPPING FLUIDS AROUND EITHER WAY
UGH... THAT'S TERRIBLE
TCH!
AND REALLY GROSS, TOO
SO KISSING IS OKAY?
BUT A WHOLE LOT OF TOUCHING IS NOT OKAY?
AND MAYBE A LITTLE TOUCHING IS OKAY TOO?
WHEN EXACTLY DOES IT BECOME NOT OKAY?
I'LL CATCH YOU OFF GUARD ONE OF THESE DAYS...
OPENS
YOU NEED TO BE CLEAR ABOUT THIS. YOU'RE JUST CONFUSING ME.
GOTCHA
I THINK ABOUT IT SOMET...

WHOA.
EVEN THE LIVING ROOM IS A TOTAL MESS...
And the house looks so nice on the outside too
WHAT DO YOU EXPECT FROM A GUY LIVING ON HIS OWN?
RUSTLE
HUH WHAT ABOUT YOUR MOM?
I THOUGHT YOU LIVED WITH HER.
SHE LIVES IN A CONDO CLOSE TO WORK.
I see. Wait, so he can just bring girls here whenever he wants?
She doesn't come here that often.
SO YOU'RE TELLING ME YOU JUST LIVE HERE ALL ALONE? in a house this big?!
I GUESS HE REALLY DOES ONLY CARE ABOUT MAKING HIMSELF FEEL GOOD.
I'm kind of getting used to him acting like this.
Go on, get out of here.
I'm going to sleep.
SHOO
SHOO
THERE'S NOTHING ELSE TO DO.
I GUESS YOU CAN GO ON HOME NOW.
And I was so close too
PUFF!

It's so funny—
SOMETIMES YOU'RE JUST TOO EASY TO READ!
IT'S NOT OFTEN, BUT...
HAHA
WHAT?!
I- IT'S JUST THAT...
ouchie!
THUMP!
SHADDUP
OPENS
WOOOOW...
VNNNNNN
THERE'S SOME STUFF IN THE FRIDGE SO YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE SOMETHING...
LET'S GET SOMETHING TO EAT! ♡
HEY, HEY, MAYBE YOU'RE SO TIRED BECAUSE YOU'RE HUNGRY?
Why are you so excited all of a sudden?


The lady that Mizuho's dad had an affair with
Around 30 yo
It seems like there are too many guys in this series having affairs. I don't think that affairs are this common in real life. I'm not really sure though.
Surprisingly, she is somewhat friendly. A woman who lets her maternal instincts get the better of her.
HUH? DID YOU MAKE ALL THIS YOURSELF, NARUMI?
YEAH, RIGHT.
TONS OF HOMEMADE LEFTOVERS IN HERE!
SHE WASHES ALL MY CLOTHES AND DISHES,
AND MAKES ME A BUNCH OF MEALS FOR THE WEEK
EVERY WEEK THE MAID DROPS COMES BY TO TIDY UP THE PLACE.
SHE LIVED HERE AT FIRST TOO.
NOW IT'S JUST ONCE A WEEK
SHE'S NOT PARTICULARLY SOCIABLE THOUGH. HER NAME'S NANAO
SHE'S BEEN DOING THIS MY WHOLE LIFE

Nom
OH, I SEE...
SO THAT'S WHY...
YOU KNOW, IT'S ALMOST LIKE...
...EVERY ROOM IN THIS HOUSE IS A KID'S ROOM
BUT THERE'S NOT MUCH DUST AT ALL
YOU HAVE ALL THIS STUFF SCATTERED EVERYWHERE,
IT MAKES SENSE NOW
THERE'S SOMEONE WHO KEEPS CLEANING UP AFTER YOU

WHEN I WAS A KID,
I WAS ALWAYS MAKING SUCH A MESS OF MY ROOM THAT AFTER A WHILE MY MOM WOULD BREAK DOWN AND START CLEANING IT.
IT ALWAYS ENDED UP LOOKING SO CLEAN.
THAT'S WHAT I THINK ABOUT WHEN I SEE YOUR HOUSE LIKE THIS
THAT'S SURPRISING. I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT YOU WOULD'VE KEPT YOUR ROOM CLEAN.
WELL, I DO NOWADAYS.
I HATE GETTING YELLED AT BY MY MOM FOR STUPID THINGS LIKE THAT
BUT IN REALITY,
I DON'T REALLY CARE EITHER WAY ABOUT MY ROOM.
IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW MUCH OF A MESS IT IS...
...JUST AS LONG AS I HAVE A PLACE WHERE I CAN JUST RELAX

AH
COVER
I CAN SEE YOUR PANTIES, SUGA
they're Light blue
MAYBE YOU'RE GETTING TOO RELAXED
HEH
IT SURE IS NICE
THIS HOUSE IS JUST SO...
STRESS-FREE
I feel defenseless.
And yet I feel like something is watching over me.
...it's over-whelming.
This naive, relaxed atmosphere...

HEY!
ALL RIGHT, I'LL SEE YOU FRIDAY!
BYE!
Slam
DAMN IT, SUGA...
...JUST DON'T COME BACK, OKAY?
OH, AND IF YOU DECIDE THAT YOU'RE ONLY OKAY WITH KISSING...
BEFORE THEN, BE SURE TO THINK OVER HOW FAR IS OKAY.
YUP, GOTCHA.
SURE, BUT NOT ON FRIDAYS.
CAN I COME AGAIN? I LIKE IT HERE.
ON FRIDAYS THE MAID COMES, SO WE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO DO ANYTHING FUN.
I'LL WALK YOU TO THE BUS STOP.
IT'S GETTING KIND OF LATE AFTER ALL.
dun
dun
dun
HEY, SUGA!
OH
YOU DON'T REALLY HAVE "GIRLFRIENDS" THOUGH, DO YOU?
IT ALMOST FEELS LIKE WE'RE IN AN ACTUAL RELATIONSHIP.
HEE HEE
It's a little silly.

PSSHHHH!
SCREEECH!
THANKS.
I'LL SEE YOU LA-
'NIGHT.
VRRROOOM

I'M HOOOME
PSSSHH
AH, WELCOME BACK.
YOU'RE A LITTLE LATE THOUGH.
AH-! BUT I MADE SO MANY CROQUETTES!
YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME SOONER!
YEAH, I WAS STUDYING AT A FRIEND'S HOUSE
SORRY, I ALREADY ATE DINNER
SORRY
WHY, WHAT'S UP?
HEY,
WE'LL BE GETTING DINNER TOGETHER TOO.
MY FRIEND AND I WANT TO START STUDYING AT THE LIBRARY EVERY FRIDAY AFTER SCHOOL.
IS IT OKAY IF I START COMING HOME LATE ON FRIDAYS?

WHO'S THIS "FRIEND?"

REM!

OH, OKAY. YOUR DAD ALWAYS GETS HOME LATE ON FRIDAYS, ANYWAY...

BY THE WAY, COULD YOU GO TELL YOUR DAD IT'S TIME FOR DINNER?

OKAY. I'M GONNA GO CHANGE, TOO.

SHE'LL BE OKAY. SHE'S SO RESPONSIBLE AND MATURE, AFTER ALL...

Pssshh

PROBABLY BECAUSE...

...I'VE ALWAYS TRUSTED HER.

The Right Way to Raise Your Family

When Your Children Lie to You

The Collapse of the Modern Education System

A Side A Day 365

With Life's Uncertainties

Back when I was young...

Every Friday I would go and see that man

and I would lie to Mom about what I was doing

Over and over again I rode in that red bus, never knowing where it would take me.

Huh?
"MIZUHO'S OKAY."
"ARE YOU OKAY, SWEETIE?"
"MIZUHO!"
"DON'T YOU EVER GET ON THE BUS BY YOURSELF AGAIN!"
I promised her that
I wouldn't ride on that red bus again, but...
I felt guilty.
I knew that it was something I shouldn't have been doing.
"I KNEW SOMETHING WAS STRANGE ABOUT THAT GUY"
"BUT I NEVER THOUGHT HE WOULD DO SUCH A THING TO THAT LITTLE GIRL."

In the end...
VROOOOM
I ended up
finding myself riding the bus countless times.
PSHHH
CLICK!
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING
I DON'T WANT THE KIDS FROM SCHOOL TO FIND OUT.
This is such a pain
IF YOU'RE GOING TO END UP COMING TO MY PLACE ANYWAY,
WHY CAN'T YOU JUST TAKE THE BUS WITH ME?
that we're going home together, I mean.

Who does it help?
To me, it's more of a nuisance.
HUH?
...IS IT REALLY SUCH A COMMENDABLE THING WHEN A GIRL DOESN'T WANT TO HAVE SEX?
WHO DOES THAT ATTITUDE ACTUALLY HELP??
YOU KNOW, I'VE ALWAYS WONDERED...
I WOULD BE LABELED A SLUT IF THEY KNEW.
Even though we haven't done anything yet
I start to feel a little funny...
Whenever I'm with Narumi,
SEE WHAT I MEAN?!
Priests who think that virginity is sacred maybe?
I'M NOT SURE...
by someone else.
all instilled in me
Those same beliefs were never really mine to begin with.
But then again,
I can just feel the morals and values deep inside me beginning to waver...
Raising Girls
The Manag
They were
Eh...
BUT I DON'T REALLY LIKE YOUR THEORY EITHER.
IT'S REALLY SELF-CENTERED.
NARUMI

I guess this is why you hire a professional.
WOOOOOW...
It's so clean and shiny!
LET'S GO UPSTAIRS, SUGA.
OKAY
CHK
CHK
Fsshhh
IT'S THE SUPER MAID...
EXCUSE ME...
Ummm
HELLO, NANAO-SAN
CH4

YOU LOOK LIKE THE KIND OF GIRL WHO TRIES TO MAKE EVERYONE HAPPY.
LET ME GIVE YOU SOME ADVICE. DON'T LET BOYS CONTROL THE WAY YOU THINK.
YOU NEED TO TREAT YOURSELF WITH RESPECT.
STARE
STARE
STARE
JUST BY LOOKING AT A GIRL YOU CAN TELL THE KIND OF GUYS SHE'S BEEN WITH.
YOU MIGHT TRY TO FORGET, BUT YOUR BODY REMEMBERS
SUGA-CHAAAA AAN...
coming
DUN DUN DUN
PROBABLY.
TADDO BLY?
WELL...
IF I WERE CERTAIN THEN I WOULDN'T BE HERE RIGHT NOW.
I KNOW THAT I'M...
I'VE THOUGHT THIS THROUGH SOME,
JUST A KID WHO WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN
SO I'LL BE OKAY.

UM KI-
KISSING AND
SO..
HOW FAR CAN WE GO?
IT'S OKAY! WE CAN HUG!
HERE!
AND Don't EVER COME BACK!
GET OUT!
"HERE!" SHE SAYS
IF YOU Don't mind
NOTHING BEYOND THAT, THOUGH
HUGGING WOULD BE FINE
BLUSH

If you say that...
I DON'T REALLY GET YOU, SUGA.
YOU'RE USUALLY SO CONFIDENT, BUT NOW YOU'RE JUST BEING EVASIVE.
...Naruwi,
with a gentleness I did not expect,
took me into his arms.

I had lived my whole life on edge, never truly relaxing for even a moment.

that they had begun to hurt.

My shoulders were so stiff with nervous tension,

...noticed it then

for the first time.

...your lips were so...
...surprisingly soft.
THAT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE, YOU KNOW?
"YOU THINK KISSING IS OKAY, BUT SEX IS OFF-LIMITS?
Yes, I may have thought something like that then...
But...
I wanted more...
More...
...and more and more and more and...
I wanted to let everything go.
I wanted to let go.
I just want to lose myself in your soft lips.

...it's kind of scary.
I feel like I'm losing a part of me...
WRRRRRRRR!
GNNNN!
GNNNN!
Is that a vacuum cleaner?
WRRRRRR!
BAAAAAAA!
VRRR!
VRRRRR!
PFFT!
HAHAHA!
GAHH!...
Damn her!
AFTER I WORKED SO HARD TO SET THE MOOD, TOO!
I GUESS SHE COULDN'T HELP HERSELF!

RUSTLE
over here"
VRRRRRR

HM?
...WAKING UP ON A SUNDAY MORNING...
THIS LAID-BACK ATMOSPHERE
GNNNNN
VRRRRRR
ON SUNDAY MORNINGS,
I SLEEP IN LATE AND JUST LAZE ABOUT IN BED FOR AS LONG AS I CAN.
BUT THEN MY MOM COMES AND SAYS
BRRRRR
IT'S LIKE...

Bang!
I NEED TO CLEAN!
MOVE!
GEEEEEZ, MIZUHO! JUST HOW LONG DO YOU INTEND TO SLEEP FOR?!
BAM
get up! I need to clean!
VRRRRRR
clean
clean
Ahaha
THIS IS WHY I TOLD YOU NOT TO COME OVER ON FRIDAYS!

Lets eat!
DRooOO
YOU CAN HAVE IT
PLOPPP
When is she going to give it up?
WOW!
It's so Pretty!
EGGS AGAIN..
Rattle
YOU IDIOT!
HEY, SHUT UP!
Heh
THE PRETTY OMELET! YOU RUINED IT!
I DON'T EAT EGGS.
You won't taste the difference anyway.
Looks are just as important as taste, stupid!
KSSHHH
I CAN HELP WITH THE DISHES.
It was really good!

THAT'S ALL RIGHT.
YOU CAN GO ON AND PLAY.
pat pat
such a nice girl
SHE REALLY TREATS US LIKE LITTLE KIDS...
Nanao, I mean.
she patted me on the head
WELL, WE ARE LITTLE KIDS
COME HERE.

I've always felt...
...quite disconnected from myself.
But whenever I get close to someone,
somehow, I can relate to them all too well...
...Something within me is giving way.

HEY, MIZUHO...

WHERE DO YOU GO EVERY FRIDAY AFTER SCHOOL?

EH?
OH, UMMMM...
Why are you turning it off?
EVERY TIME I TRY TO CALL, YOUR PHONE IS DISCONNECTED.
THEY HAVE BAD PHONE SERVICE THERE, SO...
I'M UH, STUDYING AT MY FRIEND'S HOUSE!
OH I SEE JUST SOME FRIEND, HUH?
PRICK
IT'S, UM, JUST SOMEONE FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL
OH, YEAH? WHO'S THIS "FRIEND"?
Huh?
IS SHE MAD...?
EVERYONE'S BEEN ALL SECRETIVE LATELY AND IT'S REALLY STARTING TO BOTHER ME
friends shouldn't have to keep secrets from each other.
I JUST FOUND OUT SHE'S BEEN SECRETLY MEETING UP WITH A BOY FOR A WHILE NOW!
YOU HEAR ABOUT MEGU?
Boo!
REALLY? MEGU, OF ALL PEOPLE?!
YEAH! AND SHE NEVER EVEN MENTIONED IT ONCE TO ME!
I can't believe her!
SHE SAID IT WAS SOME GUY THAT SHE WAS GOING TO PREP SCHOOL WITH
I never would have thought!
AND SHE MADE SOME EXCUSE ABOUT HOW SHE WASN'T SURE THAT SHE REALLY LIKED HIM SO SHE NEVER TOLD ANYONE ABOUT IT.

SERI-OUSLY?!
I'm really disappointed in her.
SAYING THAT MAKES HER SEEM... KIND OF SLUTTY, DOESN'T IT?
SHE SAID IT "JUST SORT OF HAPPENED" BUT THAT KIND OF THING DOESN'T JUST HAPPEN!
EH...
THEN AGAIN I HEAR THAT SHE ALREADY "DID IT" WITH HIM
Whisper
EVEN IF YOU BOTH REALLY, REALLY LIKE EACH OTHER...
EVEN IF YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT EACH OTHER...
AND HAVE THOUGHT LONG AND HARD ABOUT IT TOGETHER...
UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER...
ACTUALLY, THERE IS SUCH A THING AS BEING TOO CAREFUL.
EVEN THEN YOU NEED TO BE REALLY, REALLY, REALLY CAREFUL!
Otherwise you'll just end up getting hurt
MY MOM STAYED AWAY FROM GUYS HER WHOLE LIFE AND ENDED UP IN HER THIRTIES WITHOUT EVER HAVING A BOYFRIEND.
EVENTUALLY SHE GOT FED UP WITH IT AND DECIDED THAT SHE WANTED TO DO IT THE NEXT CHANCE SHE GOT, NO MATTER THE GUY.
THAT'S HOW SHE GOT PREGNANT WITH ME
Ah! You scared me!
Reminds me of my Dad
WHA-?!

"I WISH I COULD HAVE DONE IT WITH A GUY I LIKED AT LEAST ONCE."
THEN ONE TIME SHE WAS DRINKING BY HERSELF AND CRYING AND I HEARD HER CRY...
.....
this is giving me a headache
NO, WAIT!
EVEN IN THAT CASE, YOU NEED TO BE CAREFUL!
THAT'S WHAT I SAID!
I'm the one who should have been crying!
THAT'S ...!
THAT'S JUST WRONG!
In so many ways!
AHHH WHY CAN'T I COME OVER YOUR HOUSE TO PLAY, NARUMI?

WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF SOME REMODELING...
THE HOUSE IS A WRECK RIGHT NOW,
SO YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT

YOU CAN COME OVER WHEN IT'S FINISHED.
You mean it?
Now, purely by chance ...

WHAT IS IT?
I am the sole target of his affections.
But as soon as he gets bored of me,
I'll get tossed to the side.

Hug
IT'S NOTHING
OH?
YOU KNOW...
LATELY I'VE BEEN HAVING A HARD TIME FALLING ASLEEP WITHOUT YOU BY MY SIDE.
IN THAT CASE
I THINK I'M GETTING USED TO YOU TEASING ME LIKE YOU DO
.....
um, hold on...
I DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT SEX THAT MUCH ANYMORE...

HE FELL ASLEEP...
that was fast
.....
Ha aa ah
Swww
Swww
Haaah
...AND HE WOULD LOOK SO PEACEFUL."
"THEN HE WOULD GO TO SLEEP...
"IT ALMOST FELT LIKE HE WAS MY BABY.
"HE WOULD FIT PERFECTLY INTO MY ARMS.
AND I WAS SO HAPPY."
JUST LIKE THIS..."
NARUMI.
ABOUT THAT.
I'VE BEEN THINK-ING
Haaaah

"BUT THAT HAPPINESS...
HUG
...IT STARTED TO FEEL MORE AND MORE LIKE AN ADDICTION."

OH, I THOUGHT YOU WERE ALLERGIC TO EGGS...
You just don't like them?
YOU REALLY SHOULD LEARN TO BE LESS PICKY WITH YOUR FOOD
won't be needing this
KLANG!
I'm falling in deeper...
PERSONALLY...
I HATE WHIPPED CREAM.
I TOLD YOU...
Egg-filled custard pudding
DON'T GO PUTTING EGGS IN MY FOOD
SHE ALWAYS GOES OVERBOARD WITH THE CREAM.
MY MOM IS PRETTY GOOD AT COOKING, BUT
SO HERE YOU GO
PLOP
SHE SAYS THAT IT HAS MORE HEART AND "MAKES FOR A WARM HOUSEHOLD."
YEP. SO EVERY BIRTHDAY, CHRISTMAS, YOU NAME IT, EVEN THOUGH WE COULD JUST PICK UP A CAKE FROM THE STORE, SHE ALWAYS GOES AND MAKES A HOMEMADE ONE!
UGH, I HATE THAT. IT ENDS UP TASTING SO BLAND

I made cake!
SO EVERY TIME WE END UP WITH A CAKE THAT LOOKS NICE ON THE DINING TABLE,
BUT NO ONE WANTS TO EAT IT
SHE DOESN'T REALIZE IT, BUT IT GETS ON DAD'S NERVES TOO
AND FOR SOME REASON, DAD NEVER TELLS HER HOW HE REALLY FEELS
See! I used the biggest strawberries I could find!
IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT SHE'S SO OBLIVIOUS SOMETIMES
THEN AGAIN,
I CAN NEVER QUITE SPEAK MY MIND EITHER
SO EVEN THOUGH OUR FAMILY IS VERY NORMAL SOME WAYS,
I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK
WE DON'T QUITE FIT TOGETHER
NO ONE EVER SAYS WHAT THEY'RE ACTUALLY THINKING
MAYBE WE'RE JUST SCARED OF WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN
YOU DON'T SAY...
Why do I even bother?
"carrying on these stilted awkward conversations"

I can just that with each passing day,
my thoughts are becoming more and more childlike and selfish.
I'm just being spoiled, trying to get him to act the way I want.
Something that I want him to share with me?
Something that I want to know about him?
Is there something that I want him to say?
I can't help but get caught up in his childish ways.
Whenever I'm around Narima
Something like that...
"SO, PLEASE..."
"I'M OKAY WITH EVERYTHING."
"...TAKE ME IN."

...could never happen to me.
SVVVVV
CLICK

WHAT IS THAT ROOM USED FOR?
THE ONE NEXT TO THE STAIRS, I MEAN
I TRIED TO OPEN THE DOOR BEFORE WHEN I WAS LOOKING FOR THE BATHROOM.
BUT IT WAS LOCKED
AND I'VE NEVER ONCE SEEN YOU GO IN THERE TO CLEAN, NANAO-SAN.
I found that odd
IT'S HER ROOM.
HER? NARUMI'S MOM?
YES.
THOUGH SHE HASN'T OPENED IT IN SEVERAL YEARS
SHE KEEPS ALL OF HER IMPORTANT PAPERS FOR WORK IN THERE
THE FILES IN THERE ARE PACKED FROM WALL TO WALL
And we can't have people just walking in and moving things around, so

IF YOU GO TO ANY BOOK STORE YOU'LL PROBABLY FIND A FEW BOOKS THAT WERE WRITTEN BY HER.
REALLY ...
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT.
that's pretty amazing...
SHE'S SOMETHING OF A WELL-KNOWN FIGURE
SHE OFTEN GETS HER COLUMNS PUBLISHED IN WOMEN'S MAGAZINES
WHAT DOES SHE DO, EXACTLY?
SHE IS A PRACTICING DOCTOR OF PSYCHOSOMATIC MEDICINE.
YOU SEEM TO HAVE AN AWFUL LOT OF QUESTIONS TODAY.
I JUST WANT TO KNOW...
...HOW SOMEONE ENDS UP LIKE NARUMI.
I'M INTRIGUED.
I want to know."
It's a rather plain way of putting it, but that's okay.

Why me?
What is it about Narumi
that makes me act this way, I wonder.
BOOK
If it were anyone else I would be able to stop myself.
But for some reason, when it comes to Narumi ...
...I'll do whatever it takes.
AN INTRODUCTION TO CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY
THE MINDS OF WORKING WOMEN
Narcissistic Behavior in Adults
Recommendations in Counseling Psychology
Because...
...I want him to be mine.

Narumi Risako
OPENS
THE MINDS OF WORKING
THAT'LL BE 8,600 YEN.
...and read the book from cover to cover, not missing a single letter.
Perhaps
I became a little more knowledgeable about psychology, but...
I returned home...

...we're nowhere
The answers that I was looking for...
to be found.

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW SELFISH YOU'RE BEING RIGHT NOW?
YOU SAID IT YOURSELF
YOU "JUST" WANT HIM TO LIKE YOU...
But, but...
Taking him for yourself...
...is against the Law!
I SHOULDN'T HAVE TO REMIND YOU THAT YANAI-SENPAI IS PUBLIC PROPERTY!
...IT SOUNDS LIKE THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT YANI...
HOW COULD YOU BE SUCH A SPOILED BRAT?
ASKING FOR SOMEONE LIKE HIM TO FALL FOR YOU...
You're acting like a kinder-gardener!
B-But I...
STANDS

...just seeing Narumi's face becomes more painful.
With each passing day...
Don't do that, hehe

...riding on the bus hurts me more and more.
With each passing day...
PSSSHH
Clack

PLEASE, NARUMI...
DON'T TOUCH ME
I'M SORRY.
THIS IS ALL MY FAULT.
No matter how I prepare myself mentally,
I can never bring myself to touch him.
Now I'm just exhausted.

I CAN'T DO IT.
I CAN'T BE COMING HERE ANYMORE.
Tssss
...SHE HASN'T COME OVER IN A WHILE, HUH?
YOUR FRIEND MIZUHO
glug
glug
glug
DID SHE JUST GET BORED OF COMING HERE?
TO THIS HOUSE?
THAT GIRL...
...YOU AND HER SEEM TO HAVE A LOT IN COMMON.

...GREEDY...
...CHILDREN.
I...
YOU BOTH ARE TERRIBLE AT EXPRESSING YOURSELF.
YOU'RE AWKWARD AND TACTLESS.
YOU CAN PRETEND TO BE MATURE ADULTS ALL YOU WANT...
BUT IN REALITY
YOU BOTH ARE JUST SELFISH...

chatter
WHAT'S UP?
NOT FEELING WELL?
chatter
The feelings I have for Narumi...
...they've totally escaped my control!
Piiiin
poooong
YOU DON'T LOOK SO GOOD.
OH... HEY, MEGU...
OH
.....
BUT MAYBE YOU'D BE ABLE TO SLEEP EASIER IF YOU SPOKE YOUR MIND MORE OFTEN.
OH, WELL NEVER MIND THEN
I'M FINE. I JUST DIDN'T GET ENOUGH SLEEP LAST NIGHT.
THUMP
BRRRR

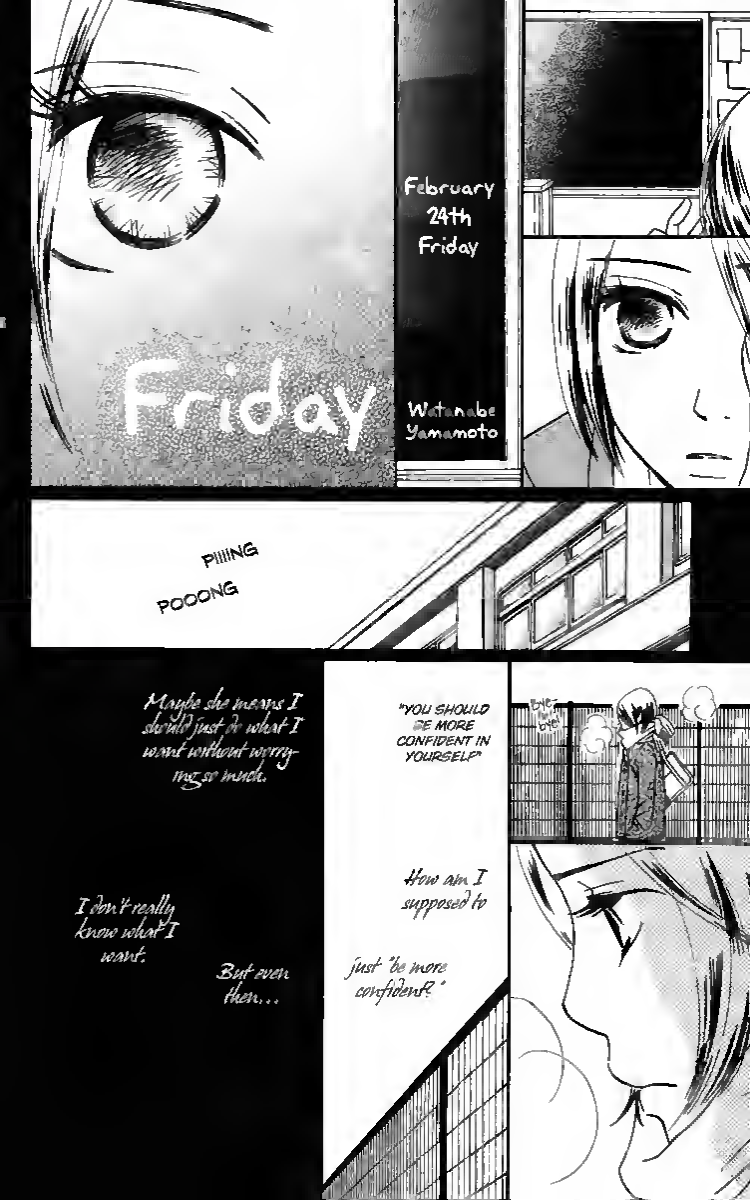
I GOT A TEXT
FROM YOUR BOYFRIEND?
YEAH
YOU KNOW CELL PHONES AREN'T ALLOWED IN HERE
THEN DON'T TELL ANYONE
HEY, MEGU.
WHY DID YOU HAVE SEX WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND?
BUH?!
DON'T JUST ASK ME THINGS LIKE THAT!
I JUST...
Can't you be more subtle?
YOU WANT TO KNOW?
Megu always came across as a little cynical.
She was severe
and sometimes quite harsh.
She didn't seem like the type of girl who would so willingly get caught up in this kind of romance.
AT HOME,
MY PARENTS ALMOST NEVER GET ALONG.
THEY'VE BEEN LIKE THIS SINCE I WAS A KID
I REMEMBER WISHING THAT THEY WOULD JUST GO AHEAD AND GET A DIVORCE,
BUT IN THE END, THEY NEVER DID

THAT GOT ME THINKING.
SO...
I THOUGHT ABOUT BOYS, AND GIRLS, AND LOVE...
I'D THINK ABOUT THE STORIES I'D HEAR FROM PEOPLE IN RELATIONSHIPS AND SAY TO MYSELF,
"TCH! LOVE IS OVER-RATED."
WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY IS, I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT THIS STUFF A LOT.
YUP. I'M ALWAYS THINKING ABOUT THINGS.
IT SURE SOUNDS LIKE YOU'VE BEEN DOING A LOT OF THINKING.
NOW, I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY HOW IT HAPPENED...
BUT SOMEWHERE ALONG THE WAY
I ACCIDENTALLY GAINED MYSELF AN ADMIRER.
BEFORE I KNEW IT, WE WERE GOING OUT.
AND EVEN THOUGH I REALLY, REALLY LIKED HIM
I DIDN'T WANT TO ADMIT IT TO MYSELF
I GUESS YOU WEREN'T SO WILLING WITH THIS RELATIONSHIP AFTER ALL.
RIGHT...
SO THEN...
I THINK
I STARTED TO WANT TO HATE HIM.
MAYBE I JUST WANTED TO BE ABLE TO SAY TO MYSELF,
"SEE! YOU DON'T NEED LOVE AFTER ALL!"

She sounds so desperate...
MAYBE THAT'S WHAT I WANTED.
TO SAY, "I DON'T NEED YOU."
Yeah, maybe that's it
D-
DID YOU TELL HIM THAT?
TO TELL HIM HOW I DIDN'T NEED HIS EMBARRASSING, DIRTY LOVE IN MY LIFE
TO BE ABLE TO JUST UNLOAD ON HIM.
TO NOT HOLD ANYTHING BACK.
Now he's got me saying stuff like that
Ah, cool
HE'S JUST TOO CUTE SOMETIMES!
(PTT)
I CAN'T WAIT, MEOW MEOW!! I LOOOVE YOUUUU!!
NO.
HONEY♥BUNNY♥
I'LL SEE YOU IN CLASS, MEOW!
I CAN'T WAIT MEOW MEOW!!
I LOOOVE YOUUUU! ♥ ♥ ♥
-END-
"MEOW MEOW?!"
Surprisingly happy
SINCE THEN
I'VE REALIZED THAT I'M JUST AS MUCH OF AN IDIOT AS HE IS!
AN IDIOT LIKE HIM WOULDN'T HAVE UNDERSTOOD.
Ahahaha
YOU'RE CUTE TOO, MIZUHO.
YOU'RE SO CUTE, MEGU!
Even though you try to hide it!

YOU KNOW, YOU HAVE A LOT TO BE PROUD OF.
YOU SHOULD BE MORE CONFIDENT IN YOURSELF.
IF YOU OPEN UP TO HIM
AND HE SAYS HE DOESN'T NEED YOU ANYMORE...
THEN THAT IDIOT
WASN'T WORTH YOUR TIME IN THE FIRST PLACE.
THERE'S NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF.
...I'M RIGHT, AREN'T I? THERE'S SOME GUY OUT THERE YOU LIKE
I'M SURE YOU'VE THOUGHT ABOUT THIS KIND OF STUFF
A WHOLE LOT, HUH?

BUT, MIZUHO
...YOU THINK WITH YOUR HEAD TOO MUCH.
CHANCES ARE
YOU WON'T FIND THE ANSWER TO THIS PROBLEM THERE.
BUT...
...IF YOU TRY THINKING WITH YOUR HEART INSTEAD...
Sec 10
I have a date to get to
WELL, INTRODUCE ME TO HIM SOME TIME.
This guy you like
CLICK


Friday
February
24th
Friday
Watanabe
Yamamoto
PIIIING
POOONG
Maybe she means I should just do what I want without worrying so much.
I don't really know what I want.
But even then...
"YOU SHOULD BE MORE CONFIDENT IN YOURSELF"
How am I supposed to just "be more confident?"
BYE
BYE!

Here I am, overthinking things again...
"NOT NOW, MIZUHO."
"LET'S GO PLAY!"
"DADDY, LOOK!"
"IT'S SNOWING!"
"DON'T BE LIKE THAT MIZUHO."
"DADDY'S JUST TIRED FROM WORK."
"IF YOU DON'T BEHAVE, DADDY WILL NEVER WANT TO PLAY WITH YOU."
"BUT HE'S LIKE THIS EVERY DAY! HE NEVER WANTS TO TALK TO ME!"

Picture: Happy Father's Day Daddy
And what did I have to do
to make them love me?
What did I have to do
to make them look my way?
What did I have to do
to make them smile?
I would constantly go over these questions in my head.
I'd smile, but only because it made them happy.
I would watch them carefully and repeat whatever worked.
"I LOVE YOU SO MUCH"
"YOU'RE SUCH A GOOD GIRL MIZUHO"
But...

...that wasn't the real me.
The person that my mother loved...
I'm just empty on the inside.
I don't feel anything at all.
"THEN, WHO IS THE REAL ME?"
"MAYBE THERE NEVER WAS A 'ME' TO BEGIN WITH"
I'd sink back into my thoughts.
"SUGA, DO YOU EVER JUST GO WITH YOUR FEELINGS?
IT SEEMS LIKE YOU JUST DO WHATEVER GETS YOU THE BEST RESULTS."

"YOU'RE ALWAYS SAYING 'I SHOULD DO THIS,' OR 'IT WOULD BE WISE TO DO THIS' INSTEAD."
"YOU NEVER SHOW ANY RAW EMOTIONS. IT'S NEVER 'I WANT THIS' OR 'I WANT THAT' WITH YOU."
For the first time ever,
I'll let my emotions carry me.

Before my thoughts
get in the way...

...want to touch Narumi.
I...

I want to feel him...
More and more...

NARUMI
PIIIN
POOOOONG
SILENCE
HUH?
THAT'S WEIRD, I GUESS HE'S OUT.
BUT HIS WINDOW'S OPEN...
Nanao is probably home.
CLICK
NARUMI?
He's not here.
.....
OPENS
Ah.
THE DOOR'S NOT LOCKED.
NARUMI?
NANAO-SAN?

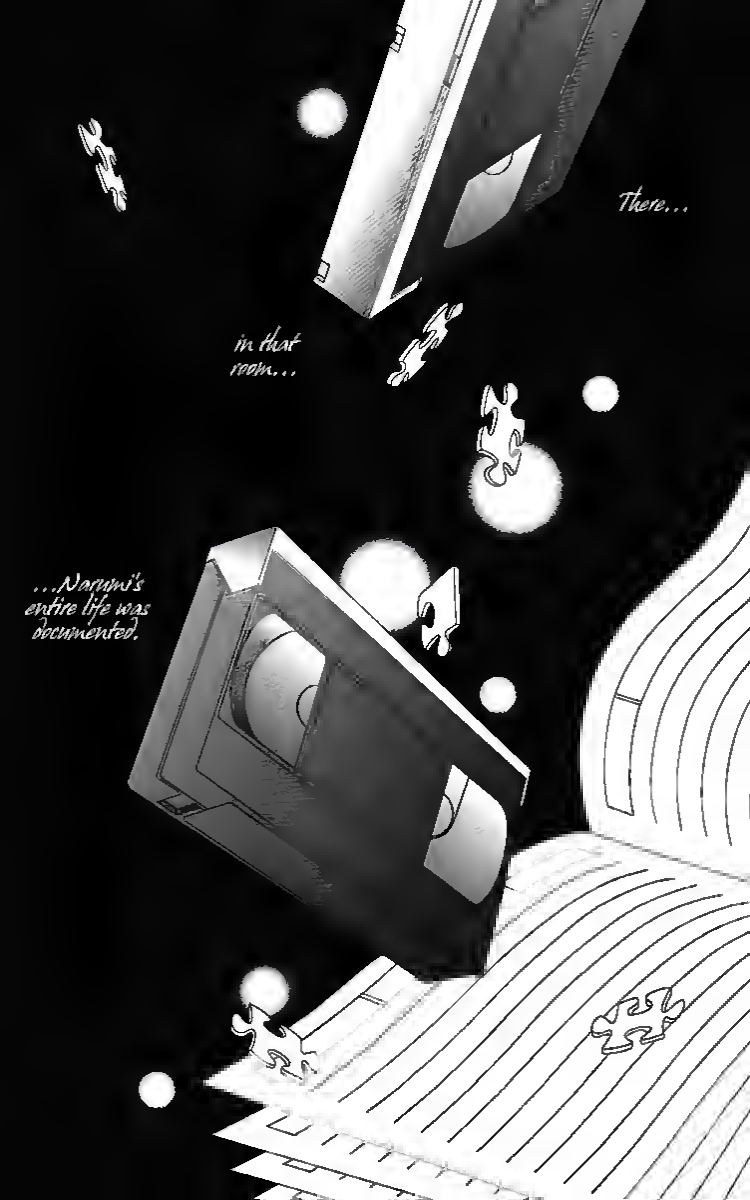
I just let myself in without thinking
.....
AH, WELL
I GUESS I'LL JUST WAIT HERE
PLOP
"SO, HOW FAR CAN WE GO?"
"THERE'S NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF."
If...
...I go any further with him...
...what will I see then?
What face
would Narumi make then?

I imagined then
that my future would be a kind one...
I want to find out.
Where does this desire lead
CREEEAAKK

THAT ROOM ...
CREEEAK
Is anyone there?
OPENS
NARUMI?
NANAO-SAN...?
"SHE KEEPS ALL OF HER IMPORTANT PAPERS FOR WORK IN THERE."
Her room...
THE FILES IN THERE ARE PACKED FROM WALL TO WALL
And we can't have people just walking in and moving things around, so
IT'S OPEN?
HOW?
HUH
If only...

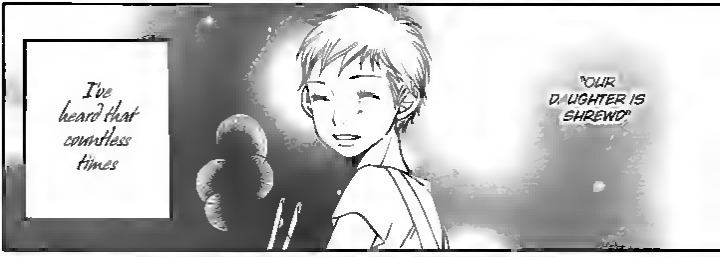
If only that door were locked tightly shut as usual...
If only it did not open even a little,
not even a crack...
If only, even driven on by my overwhelming curiosity, I were unable to open that door...
TURNS
Creeeeak
Then perhaps...
...things would have turned out differently between the two of us.

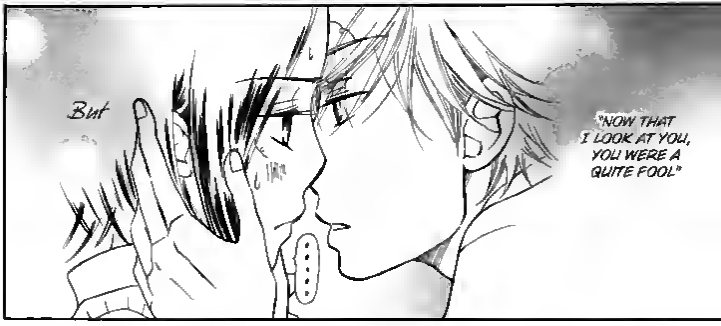
That room...
...there was nothing about it that made it stand out at first but...

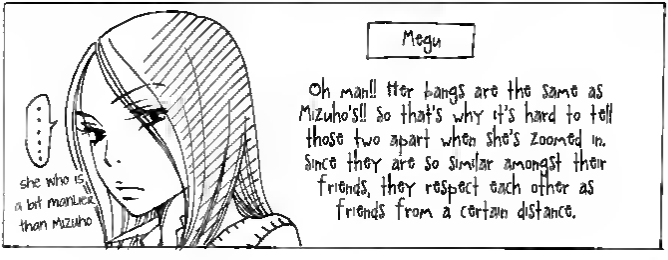

There...
in that room...
...Narumi's entire life was documented.

Story7

How many times have I heard that
"MIZUHO'S PERSONALITY IS SO COOL."


I've heard that countless times
"YOUR DAUGHTER IS SHREWD"


But
"NOW THAT I LOOK AT YOU, YOU WERE A QUITE FOOL"


she who is a bit manlier than Mizuho
Megu
Oh man!! Her bangs are the same as Mizuho's!! So that's why it's hard to tell those two apart when she's zoomed in. Since they are so similar amongst their friends, they respect each other as friends from a certain distance.

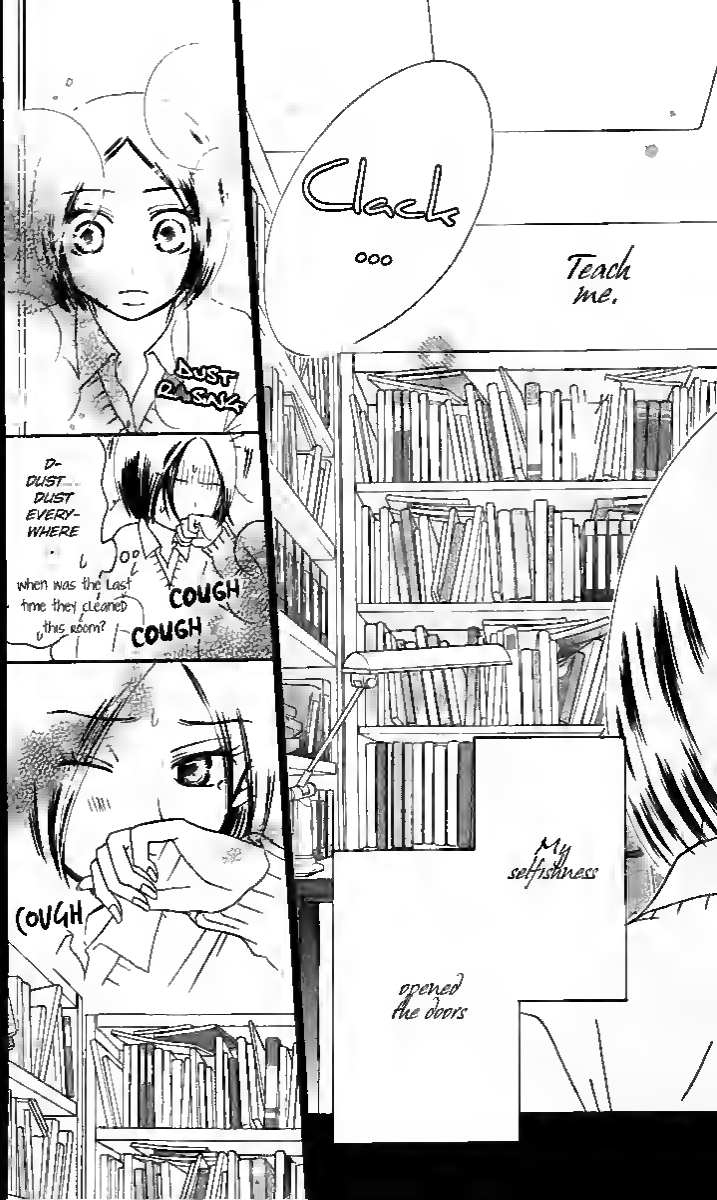
I break! free!
until now
from suppressed desires.
Naruma's existence itself
provokes me.
and entrust my body.
I was too afraid to let go

I thought that I would not be myself anymore
by the pleasure that was addictive.
Or get swayed,
But even still
I wanted him.
click
NARUMI ...?
ALINT-?
is nobody here?
So, that day I went to Narumi's house
to just embrace him in my arms
I wanted to find the source of this desire.
NARUMI

door that was always locked up opened.
creak ..
An empty house?
it was secretly luring me in.
creak ...
As if
"THERE ARE IMPORTANT MATERIALS THAT ARE NECESSARY FOR HER WORK"
"SHE'S WORKING AS A PROFESSIONAL NEUROLOGIST."
"SHE'S NOT COME BACK IN THIS HOUSE FOR FEW YEARS THOUGH."
SHE'S "QUITE FAMOUS."
Eh?
IT'S NARUMI'S ... MOTHER'S ROOM
WHY IS IT OPEN?
"FILLING UP THAT ROOM"
so you can't open it

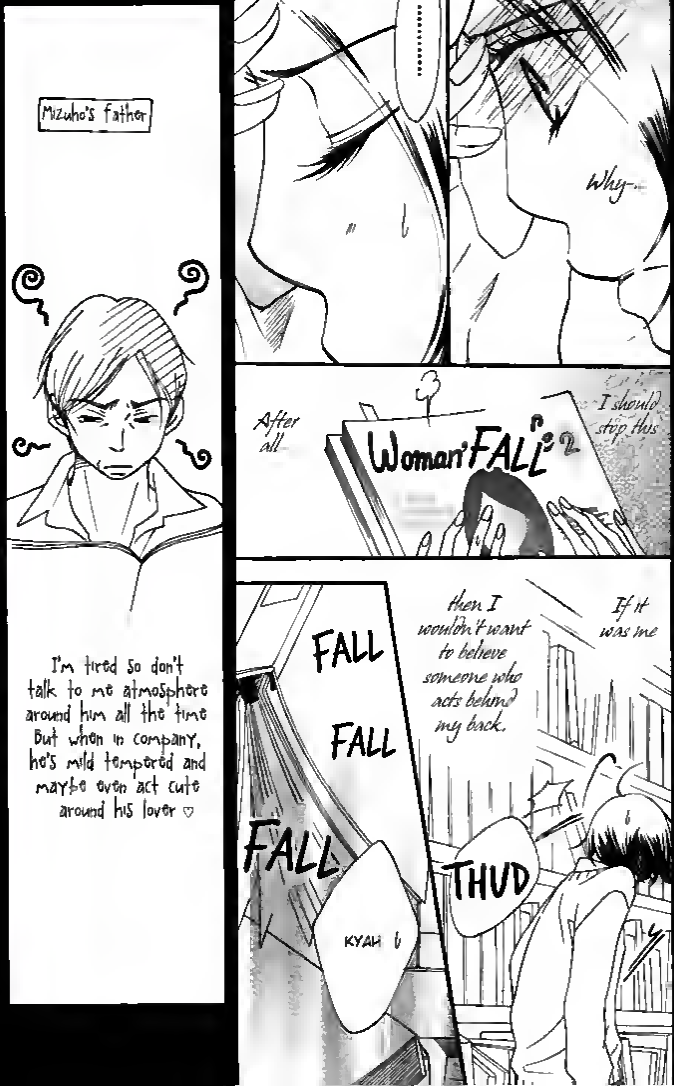
.....
Naru-mi's
Naru-mi's mother
LET'S CLOSE IT
IT'S ALWAYS LOCKED
I wonder what happened?
I wanted to know too many things.
Before hugging him
Maybe I
was scared of running into him.
"NARUMI THAT PUNK, SWITCHED GIRLS AGAIN."
.....
"HE'S JUST USING GIRLS AS TOOLS."

Tell me.
I want to know.
If she gave birth, who
NARUMI RISAKO
raised him, wouldn't she know something?
How to 'catch him'
Him
who cannot be controlled
To make him mine for a while?
What should I do
That guy who doesn't obsess over anyone
I want to become someone who he yearns for


Clack
ooo
Teach me.
My selfishness
opened the doors
DUST
D-DUST DUST EVERY-WHERE
when was the last time they cleaned this room?
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH

Woman's Life 2
IT'S ALL..
JUST BOOKS AND FILES ?
it doesn't have any signs of life
Woman's Life 2
SPE-CIAL
A PARENT WHO SAVES THE CHILD'S TALENT,
A PARENT WHO KILLS IT
Ahp...
IT'S SOMETHING THAT MY MOTHER WOULD LOVE..
ha ha..
manuals on
bringing up children
NARUMI RISAKO SENSEI

...TO HAVE CHILDREN GROW THEIR TALENTS
FIRST THEY NEED SAFE ENVIRONMENT
'NO ONE SHOULD DENY HIS EXISTENCE'
'AND THEY SHOULDN'T HOLD BACK BECAUSE OF THEIR SELFISH PARENTS'
'IN A NATURAL AND A WARM FAMILY'
'...A HEALTHY MIND SURROUNDED BY PLENTY OF EMOTIONS' AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERATE OF ALL
Then
Why did she bring up Naruto that way?
Why is she leaving him crooked as he is?


Mizuho's Father
I'm tired so don't talk to me atmosphere around him all the time But when in company, he's mild tempered and maybe even act cute around his lover ♡
.....
Why...
After all
Woman' FALL 2
I should stop this
If it was me
then I wouldn't want to believe someone who acts behind my back.
FALL
FALL
FALL
KYAH !
THUD

I DON'T KNOW-...
caused trouble
UWAA
IT'S YOUNG NARUMI!!!
so cute
WHAT IS THIS?
07 00 Wake up
07 30 Breakfast
12 00 Lunch
16 00 Dinner
21 00 Sleep
08 30 Study
13 00 Study
15 00 Free
is it a baby diary?

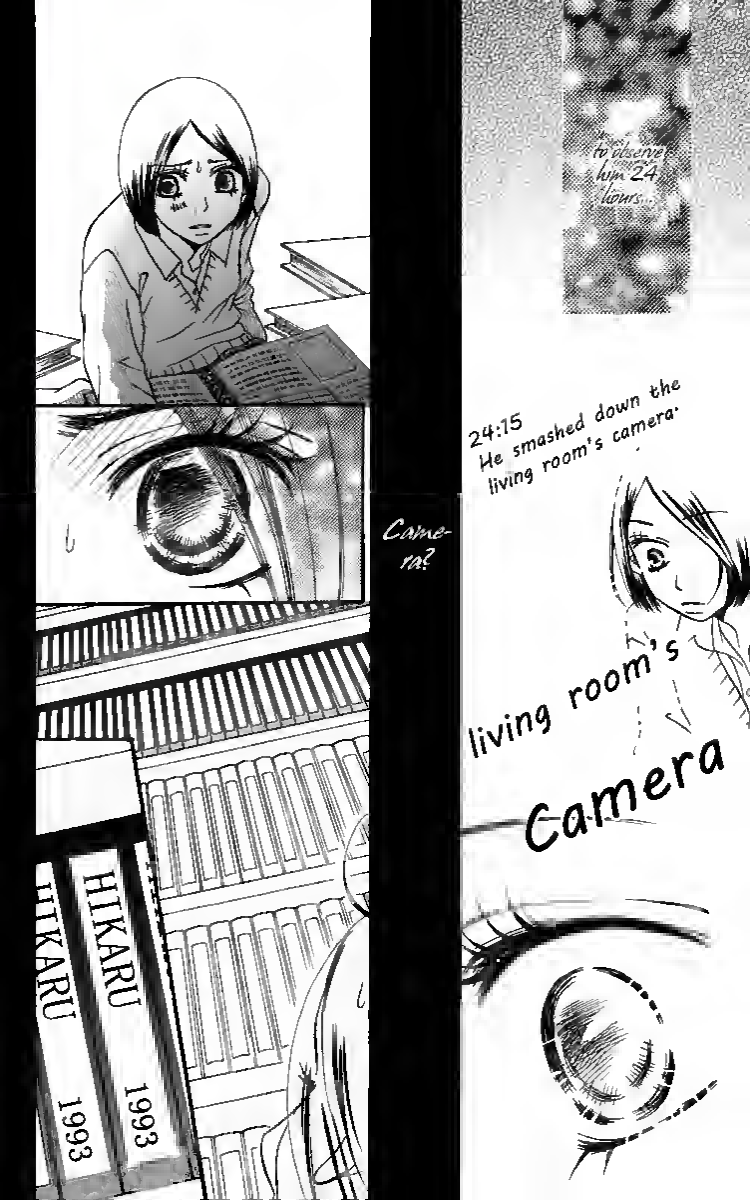
Ahh.
I really shouldn't do this.
LET'S PUT IT BACK...
TAP
HIKARU 1995. 2
HIKARU 1995. 1
HIKARU 1995. 1
HIKARU 1994. 12
HIKARU 1994. 12
HIKARU 1994. 12
HIKARU 1994. 11

IKARU 1993
RU 1993
1993
HIKARU
HIKA
HIKARU
A-ARE ALL OF THESE BABY BOOKS ?
LOOK AT THIS AMOUNT.
unbelievable
my goodness
"THERE ARE IMPORTANT MATERIALS THAT ARE NECESSARY FOR HER WORK"
FILLING UP THAT ROOM
so you shouldn't enter
THUMP

HIKARU 1990
HIKARU 1991
HIKARU 1992
HIKARU 1993
HIKARU 1994
"MISSING SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT WHAT A HUMAN HAS"
"NARUMI IS"
"HE'S ALL TWISTED"
THUMP
Instead of feeling guilty

'I want to understand him'
1993
That selfish desire won over.
BUT . THIS IS REALLY AMAZING
UWAH- IT REALLY WAS JUST A NORMAL BABY BOOK..
Whew
I IMAGINED IT TO BE MORE DANGEROUS
what am I thinking
Including
He just pushes away the Ginger side dish or vomits
But wants to go closer
crawing under the bed
From morning to night
food, things he touched, things he took interest in,
body temperature 36.7 degrees, body temperature 37.3 degrees
always carries a yellow blanket
What he said, his attitude, his body condition, and everything else.
He is confident in the dark
is scared of the dark, Once in touch with chemicals, his nape turns red and swollen
He lies 'I know'
interested in cars
Threw up milk

'My head hurts' he said.
I gave him a pill. After a while
unable to concentrate
Lack of attention
Becomes very irritated
To look away from
He didn't anything on Dinner
Whining that he won't take a bath
He isn't saying anything all day, doesn't reply
the truth
Is this
and only record
Supervision emotions warmth
He is hitting the housekeeper
AN... OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE?
TO WRITE DOWN HER CHILD'S GROWTH SO OBJECTIVELY... SHE SEEMS LIKE AN AMAZING PERSON.
1996~
(to record)
in details
1991~
Every year
every day from morning till night
1994~
his every word, smile, moves
Something like that is impossible.
...Possible?


to observe him 24 hours...
24:15
He smashed down the living room's camera.
Camera?
living room's
Camera
HIKARU 1993
HIKARU 1993

HIKARU 1994
HIKARU 1994
HIKARU 1994
HIKARU 1994
HIKARU 1994
HIKARU 1994
HIKARU 1994
HIKARU 1993
HIKARU 1993
HIKARU 1993
HIKARU 1993
HIKARU 1993
HIKARU 1993
HIKARU 1993
HIKARU 1993
HIKARU 1993

Ah!
BZZT
Coming from...
TAP
RATTLE
RATTLE
it's this house's
tightly
"Narumi"

CREEEK
BEEP
BEBEEP
BEEP
CREEEEAK

"IN THAT ROOM"
"THERE ARE IMPORTANT MATERIALS THAT ARE NECESSARY FOR HER WORK"
"FILLING UP THAT ROOM"
There are
cameras.

SIR.
HERE
I'LL CLEAN UP THE EMPTY PLATES
THE FOOD WAS PAID BY THE PERSON WHO CAME HERE WITH YOU SO,
PLEASE TAKE YOUR TIME.
NO..
I'M GOING AS WELL.
RATTLE
EH...? BUT YOU DIDN'T EVEN TOUCH THE OMURICE...!
I NORMALLY DON'T EAT EGGS
EH?

Ehh...?
CREAK
WELL,
I'M TELLING YOU NOT TO GIVE HIM THE THINGS HE WANT
NARUMI

YOU JUST NEED TO FOLLOW MY INSTRUCTIONS
AND GIVE HIM THE AMOUNT I'VE INSTRUCTED YOU
CLICK
STEP
STEP
STEP
STEP
MIZUHO?
DID she come?
CLICK

CLICK
Woman's Life
IN EVERY FAMILY, WHETHER THERE'S LESS OR MORE, THIS HAPPENS.
AM I DOING SOMETHING WRONG IN THE TERMS OF LAWS?
I'M PROVIDING HIM WITH MINIMUM FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT.

WHAT
IS WRONG WITH A PARENT TRYING TO RESTRICT THEIR CHILD?
CLICK

MIZUHO,
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
Always

I thought that
"IKUHO'S PERSONALITY IS SO COOL"
I can cope with it.
I'm ok.
In whichever situation I'm in
I thought that
I could find the best 'words' and 'me' in that situation
During that short while
and adjust my breathing
I close my eyes
without getting confused,
I search for 'me'.
Supressing my emotions
and look into the opponent's eyes.

I can't turn around
But right now
I should be facing him with
which me
I don't know
HEY
(CREAK
I ASKED YOU
WHAT ARE YOU DOING.

I...
WANTED TO SEE YOU SO I CAME...
TO TOUCH YOU ONCE MORE
BUT... SINCE THIS DOOR WAS OPEN SO...
I'M REALLY SORRY...
HMM...
SO YOU CAME TO DO IT WITH ME?
IT'S
NO?
NO...
It's not that it's not... but...
YOU ALWAYS WATCH ME WITH SCARED EYES
I don't know what to say
It's different

DO YOU LIKE ME OR HATE ME?
WHICH ONE IS IT?
I don't know
wait
I'm confused
I REALLY HATE YOU, MIZUHO

ALWAYS
ACTING SO HIGH AND MIGHTY.
LOOKING AT ME FROM ABOVE
YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE THE COURAGE TO BECOME DIRTY.
I
DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT WHEN I SEE YOU
I WANT TO HURT YOU CRUELLY.

THUD
HEY...
STOP IT!
AH...

No.
NARUMI ...!
I wanted to treat him tenderness
But the words I always say
strangely doesn't come out of my mouth...
"I TOLD YOU!"
I wanted him to treat me with tenderness
"YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO RIDE THE BUS GOING IN ANOTHER DIRECTION!"
PLEASE, STOP IT!!

"YOU KNOW THAT PERVERT WHO GOT CAUGHT LAST TIME DOING BAD STUFF TO A GIRL? WELL, THAT GUY ADORED HER."
"HAA IT'S HER THAT GIRL..."
"DON'T EVER FOLLOW THAT STRANGER!! DO YOU UNDERSTAND?"
"THAT OWL-CHAN ISN'T A BAD PERSON."
"DON'T EVER FOLLOW THAT BAD WI-CHAN, OK?"
"MIZUHO, ARE YOU OK?"
"MIZUHO!!"
"I LIKE THAT OWL-CHAN!!"
MOM
"I'M TELLING YOU!! DON'T EVER SAY THAT!"
"WHY? I DON'T WANT TO HATE OWL-CHAN!"
"PLEASE I BEG YOU DON'T TALK TO AUNTS ABOUT THIS!"

"DIDN'T HE BRAINWASH HER?"
"IT'S STRANGE. HOW SHE DEFENDS THAT WEIRD GUY."
"EH?"
" DID HE REALLY NOT DO ANYTHING?"
"BUT MIZUHO SAID THAT NOTHING HAPPENED!"
"HOW DO YOU BELIEVE A CHILD'S WORDS?"
"A KID WHO DOESN'T HAVE THE ABILITY TO JUDGE YET!"
"SHE'D TRY TO READ PEOPLE'S MINDS"
"TOMORROW--"
"I DON'T KNOW WHAT SHE'S THINKING"
"SHE WAS SPECIAL FROM THE START"

"LET'S GO HOME MOM..!"
"NO, NO! I HATE PAIN!"
"IT'S OK WE'RE ONLY GONNA LOOK"
"TAKE HER TO THE HOSPITAL"
"MIZUHO"
"DON'T BE SO SPOILED"
"NO..!!"
"IT'S ALRIGHT"
"IT'S NOT SCARY AT ALL."
PUSH

I was already hurt
"No-!!"
I.
But maybe
that time

When a child is lying
even then
even then
I may just have been suppressing my
PFFT..
hideous emotions similar to anger

WHAT. YOU KNOW HOW TO CRY
I'm scared.
But
I don't want to get hurt

OK.
YOU CAN GO NOW.
I DON'T NEED YOU ANYMORE.
Because

I don't want to become tattered.
CLICK
BEEP
SHUT
STEP
STEP
STEP

CHE, YOU WERE HOME?
OF COURSE THE WHOLE DAY.
cuz it's FRIDAY
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO OPENED THIS DOOR, RIGHT?
...WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?
PLEASE DON'T DO ANYTHING UNNECES-SARY.

After the weekend - Monday.

AH, MIZUHO!
DID YOU PREPARE FOR ENGLISH?
Please show it to me
AH, MIZUHO
me too, me too
ALRIGHT...
HERE.
NARUMI.
HEY, NARUMI~
WHEN CAN WE GO TO YOUR HOUSE?

IS THE REPAIR MAINTENANCE STILL GOING ON?
I want to go so bad~
.. NO, THEY FINISHED IT LAST WEEK
COME OVER WHENEVER YOU'LL FEEL LIKE IT.
REALLY? oh yes~!
THESE THUGS JUST DECIDING ON A DATE...
Hey, you go back to your classroom already!!
hahahha
HEY~ IT'S NOT LIKE THAT~
I'm just going over to play
Close my eyes

it's alright to just close it

it's ok

and search for 'me' again

shut my emotions

Then I won't get hurt again
And not long after
we became third years
GIRLS PROBABLY THINK THAT THEY ARE SPECIAL
EITHER WAY, I THINK THAT THE GIRLS ARE VERY DUMB
THEY KNOW HOW IT'LL END UP
BUT WHY DO THEY GET MESSED UP LIKE MOTHS EVERYTIME?
and never really met up
we got separated
but his scandals were usual
AH, NARUMI, HE'S MAKING ANOTHER GIRL CRY.

'THEY ARE THE ONLY LOVED ONES', 'THEY ARE SPECIAL', 'THEY CAN CHANGE HIM'
AND GIRLS WHO HAVE DELUSIONS LIKE THAT
TEND TO HAVE PRINCESS SYNDROMES
THEY ARE SELFISH
AND FEEL LIKE THEY'VE BECOME A CINDERELLA.
THERE'S GONNA BE A MOUNTAIN OF GIRLS WHO FAILED TO BECOME A CINDERELLA
HEEEY~ IT'S NOT FUNNY AT ALL, DO YOU KNOW THAT?
JUST LET NARUMI DIE!
AHAHAHAHAHA
I don't want a prince who's like that~
And after that
I don't remember anything about our school after that

The year after that
I got into a university
And met Daiki
hyper
hyper
hyper
MIZUHO-!!
BUT ISN'T SHE A BIT COY? LIKE A BIT TOO RESERVED, COLD?
WELL, SHE LOOKS NEAT.
she's not really eye-catching though.
hmm
Suga Mizuho
and that atmosphere around her!
ISN'T SHE SUPER PRETTY?
ISN'T THAT GIRL MIZUHO REALLY OK?
AAAHH—
HEY~ YOU DULL STUPID IDIOT!
punch
punch
punch
punch
HOW DARE YOU LECTURE US? YOU VIRGIN!
WELL, KIDS LIKE YOU WOULD NEVER KNOW HER CHARM.
GIRLS WHO ARE LIKE THAT ARE USUALLY VERY PURE AND KIND!
AHAHAHA...
He come here again

The exact opposite of Narumi
SLURP
AH
NOISY
One of those audacious people who came into other's boundaries
Daiki was also
If you'll pay for us, we'll go~
Don't we still have 3rd class left?
DAIKI, YOUR SLEEVE! THE SAUCE!
what do we do!
HEEEEEEEECK!!?
UWAAA.
I got scared when Mizuho touched me so suddenly
WE—EP
MIZUHO HOW CAN YOU LET HIM CRY?
He's somewhat too pure
F... FRESH...
⇦ Comparing him to Narumi
what the
I'm sorry!!!

MIZUHO!
It made me so happy
that even someone like me
could make someone smile like this
So I started going out with him without being hesitant
and we became naturally lovers...
203
Sumiyoshi
UHH~ I'M GETTING SO NERVOUS
I... I WANT TO RUN AWAY...
What?
NO WAY
SERIOUSLY?

...YOU
HM?
ARE YOU EXPERIENCED IN THIS?
YOU... LOOKED SO CALM...
...IT'S MY FIRST TIME
I'M ALSO NERVOUS
I said that
I can close my eyes
and forget everything
...H
and a little caressing
only a kiss
Something like that
There was no love
and thought about
what that was with Narumi

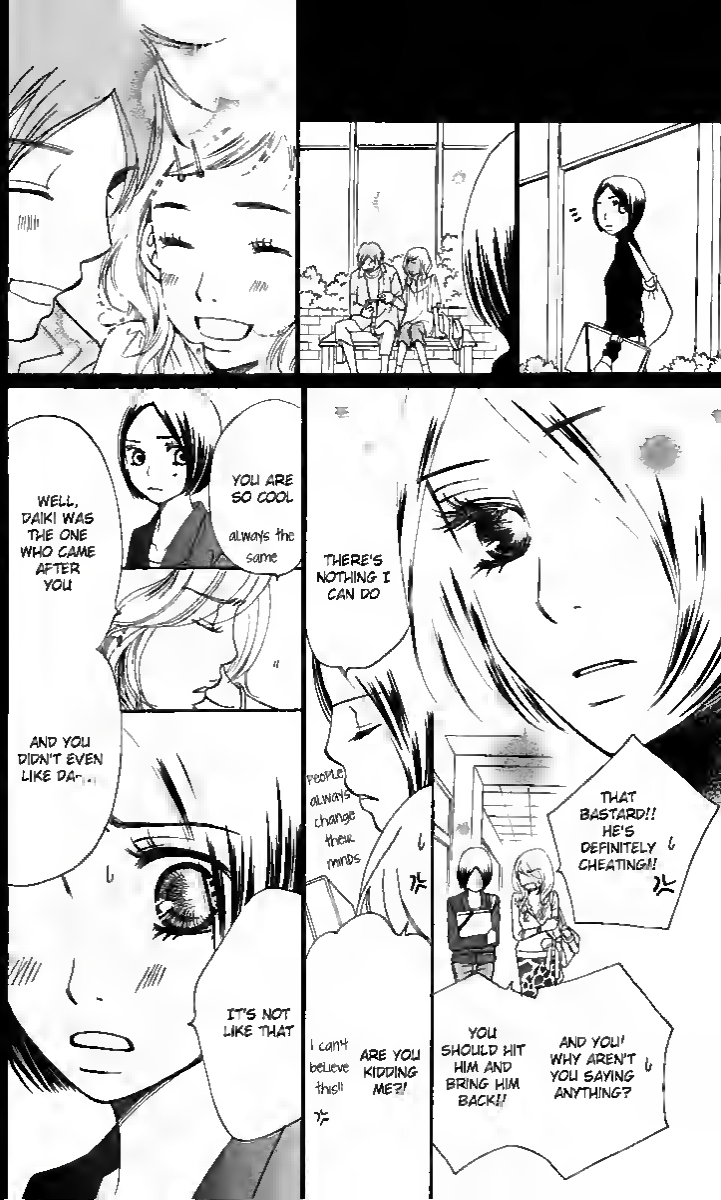
WHA
STARTLE
DOES IT HURT?!
DON'T STOP
I'M OK SO
CONTINUE
Dvkd
always puts what he felt
into words
I DON'T KNOW-..
I CAN DIE OF HAPPINESS RIGHT NOW..
THERE ARE PINK HEARTS EVERYWHERE ..!!
total Miracle Paradise!!
when together with him
UWAAAAAAA-H
what's with that hand?

AH- YOU KNOW THIS CD!!!
It's a present!!
THE THIRD SONG IS AMAZING!! I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU!! YOU HAVE TO LISTEN TO IT!!
IT'S SUPA-AWESOME!!
really
wondering if Daiki saw a world
I often think about
that was full of colours that I couldn't
And I
want to receive all of it
He
tries to express all of it
Getting moved and
It's so tasty~
Mizuho, you're the best!
It's just ordinary curry
getting happy over everything
I wouldn't get sick of it, if I would eat this every day

I even lent it to my friend today
I LISTENED TO IT ALL DAY...
NO? IT WAS GREAT.
REALLY ...? It's fine then
Every time he would get disappointed
DID YOU NOT LIKE THE SONG?
Did the simple and straightforward love song itself move him?
But...
I couldn't find it no matter how many times I listened to it and
EVEN WHEN I'M WITH YOU I HAVE NO IDEA
WHAT YOU LIKE OR WHAT YOU HATE
MIZUHO, YOU
I WANT YOU TO TELL EVERYTHING WHAT YOU FEEL
I WANT TO KNOW
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING NOW?
"That question is awkward" is what I'm thinking

I JUST THOUGHT
THAT YOU ALWAYS REACT ON IT SO PASSIVELY...
WHAT?
DO YOU HATE SLEEPING WITH ME?
NO... I DON'T HATE IT...! IF I'D HATE IT, THEN I WOULDN'T DO IT!
IF YOU HATE IT THEN TELL ME. I WON'T FORCE YOU TO.
Maybe I
was supposed to
tell him how I felt
He treats me so nicely
I don't know what to complain about
WHY DON'T YOU SAY WHAT YOU WANT?
I MEAN OTHER THINGS THAN SLEEPING TOGETHER
IF YOU DON'T TELL ME, I WON'T KNOW.

WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO GO OUT WITH ME?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT
WHY DO YOU NOT DEMAND ANYTHING?
I ALSO WANT TO BE SOMEONE WHO YOU NEED
YOU DON'T-
TANGLE
NOT EXPECT ANYTHING?
IS IT SO BAD FOR ME NOT TO WANT ANYTHING AND
NEED TO DO ANYTHING FOR ME
I'm already happy
that you're there for me.


AND YOU! WHY AREN'T YOU SAYING ANYTHING?
YOU SHOULD HIT HIM AND BRING HIM BACK!!
ARE YOU KIDDING ME?!
I can't believe this!!
people always change their minds
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO
THAT BASTARD!! HE'S DEFINITELY CHEATING!!
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT
AND YOU DIDN'T EVEN LIKE DA-...
WELL, DAIKI WAS THE ONE WHO CAME AFTER YOU
YOU ARE SO COOL
always the same

I ALSO THINK
OF DAIKI AS A VERY IMPORTANT PERSON
He's important
I don't want to lose him. The more I think
the more my body gets all intimi-dating
WHAT MEANING DOES THAT HAVE?
YOU NEVER TOLD DAIKI HOW YOU FELT.
DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY TIMES DAIKI CAME TO ME SEEKING FOR ADVICE THINKING THAT YOU DON'T LIKE HIM?
FEELINGS THAT YOU DON'T TELL YOUR PARTNER HAS NO MEANING.
IT'S ONLY SELF-SATISFACTION.
Close my eyes

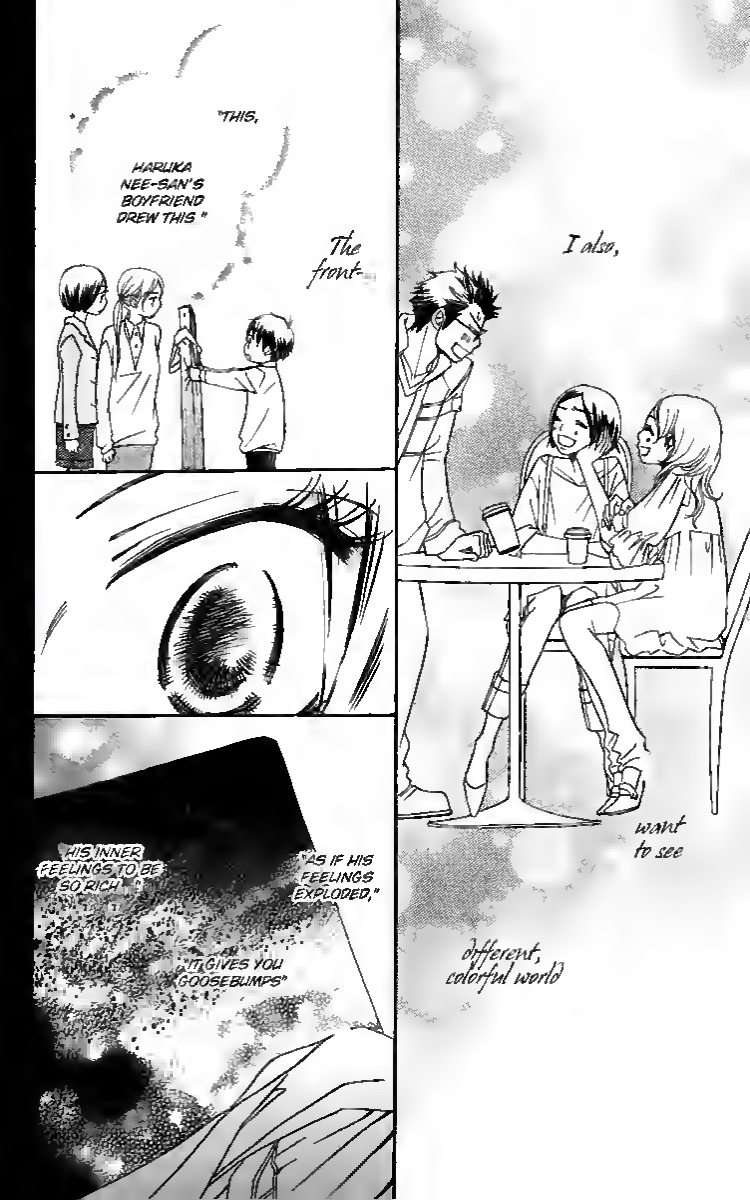
shut away
my emotions

Are
there just

spread
empty gaps?

and then?

I met my old friends from high school
by the death of
Onoguchi Haruka, who was in the same class as me in my sophomore year
"I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK OF YOU."
"I WANT YOU TO FIND HARUKA'S BOYFRIEND SHE DATED IN HIGH SCHOOL"
"HARUKA WAS PREGNANT WITH THAT MAN'S CHILD."
I start to strongly doubt
my sense
thinking that depending on each people the world looks different
Sometimes


"THIS,
HARUKA NEE-SAN'S BOYFRIEND DREW THIS."
The front
I also,
want to see
different, colorful world
"AS IF HIS FEELINGS EXPLODED,"
HIS INNER FEELINGS TO BE SO RICH."
"IT GIVES YOU GOOSEBUMPS"

TIGHTEN...
"H.N"
H.N
"IT'S THAT MAN'S INITIAL"
"Hikaru... Naruto?"

Open my eyes
and look in front.
Grabbing out my emotions

always there
Narumi
was
Awfully twisted
person with vacuum
THIS PAINTING
YOU DIDN'T DRAW THIS DID YOU...?
HN
NO, DIDN'T
THERE ARE LOTS OF PEOPLE WITH THIS SAME INITIAL
I

COME IN
whatever emotions come out
I'll never get scare?
DON'T YOU COME IN?
3 YEARS AGO YOU CAME HERE FREQUENTLY
NARUMI

DUSTY
DUSTY
Bzzzzzz
zzz~zz
crumple
rustle
rustle
splat
KYAAA
AAAAH
H!!!
Faints
From
screaming

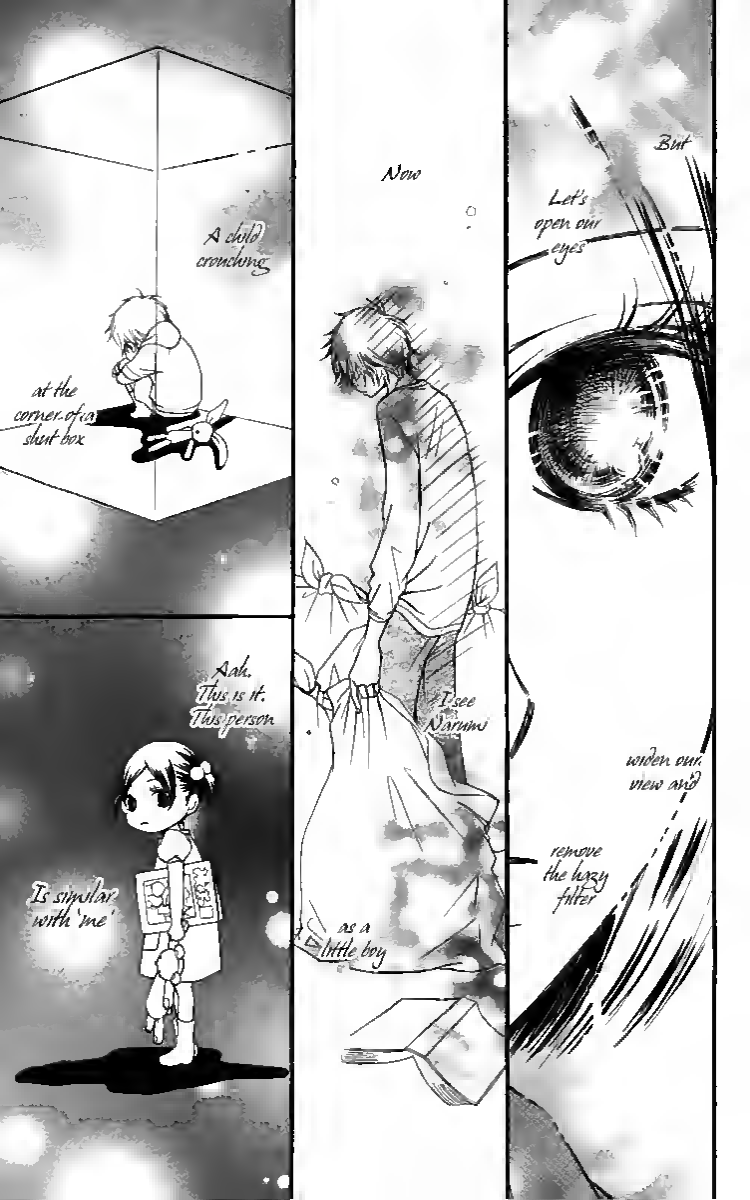
FUFU FUFU FUFUFU
SO BASICALLY, CAN YOU HELP ME CLEAN?
THAT WAS THE REASON FOR INVITING ME IN?!
Here
over my dead body!
AHAHA, I ALSO LOST MY PLACE TO SLEEP
AND DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.
WHAT, DO, I DO, WHAT, DO, I DO, WHAT DO I DO, WHAT DO I DO!! GO AWAY!!
HYAAH
Black Demon on my forehead!
She came here at least once a week before
HUH, WHY?!
anyways it's troubling
SHE COMES HERE SOME--TIMES
WHAT'S WITH THIS HOUSE?! WHERE'S THE HOUSEKEEPER?!
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE SO I'LL COME WHEN
Even if I'll come, then I'll leave soon
IF you're dead or not
I'll just check
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE
LOOKING AFTER THE YOUNG MASTER
WHAT?
fight
2--3 YEARS AGO WE HAD A BIG FIGHT.
AND AFTER THAT..

WHAT HAPPENED?
H-HOW BAD DID YOU FIGHT?
giving her paychecks every month, it's over the board don't you think?
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
SHE IS BREAKING THE RULES OF THE CONTRACT
70
THAT LADY..
SHE LIKED YOU VERY MUCH
THAT DAY WHEN IT SNOWED
HIGH SCHOOL 2ND YEAR
THE LAST DAY YOU CAME TO OUR HOUSE
WELL, THAT LADY
I WAS EAVES-DROPPING BEHIND THE DOOR.
our conversation
Ah!
CLANG
Don't do this!!
WHAT?!
she heard all of that?
SL
AP
AND BECAUSE OF THAT I GOT BEAT UP
I GOT PISSED OFF AND THREW A BOOK AT HER
B
AM
AND HIT THE BULLS EYE
PUNCH
PUNCH
PUNCH
PUNCH
PUNCH
CRA
CKLE

TH-THERE WAS SOMETHING LIKE THAT..?
you should've restrained
BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER THE CONTRACT'S COMING TO AN END
THAT LADY..
WAS SAID TO BE HERE UNTIL I'LL BECOME 20
THIS HOUSE ALSO
THAT WAS THE CONDITION
WILL BE SOLD BY THEN
SHE LENT THIS HOUSE TO ME
TWENTY.. THEN IT'S THIS YEAR
WHEN'S YOUR BIRTHDAY?
AUGUST
THEN YOU DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME LEFT!!

I JUST THINK THAT WAY
I'LL LIVE LIKE THIS AND
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO AFTER THAT?
What about school?
...BUT.
I WONDER.
IT SHOULD
I know~
You won't be that easy!
JAPAN'S AVERAGE LIFESPAN IS 80 YEARS.
DIE IN A BORING WAY ANYWAY
I DON'T
IF I'LL LIVE FOR 60 MORE YEARS LIKE THIS
REALLY EXPECT ANYTHING FROM MYSELF.
THAT GIVES ME GOOSE-BUMPS
I'D PROBABLY TURN INSANE FROM BOREDOM.

I was
constantly scared by this person
Thinking I'd get hurt
I thought he was
Someone I couldn't understand
the exact opposite of me and was out of hand.
destructive.
and never turns around.
treating himself and the others violently.
I CAN'T IMAGINE
AN ORDINARY LIFE.
Despairing


A child crouching
at the corner of a shut box
Now
But
Let's open our eyes
widen our view and
remove the hazy filter
I see Naruma
as a little boy
Aah. This is it. This person
Is similar with 'me'

I

Of my own reflection in the mirror.
was constantly getting scared

Glo...
...WHAT IS IT? SO SUDDENLY.
a hug?
MM...
JUST...

I constantly
TREATING YOU WARMLY
wanted to

HEY,
YOU KNOW THAT?
THE WORLD IS
SURPRISINGLY BEAUTIFUL.
do this to
Narumi

THERE LIVE PEOPLE
WHO GET ANGRY,
EVERYDAY,
IN THIS SPARKLING WORLD

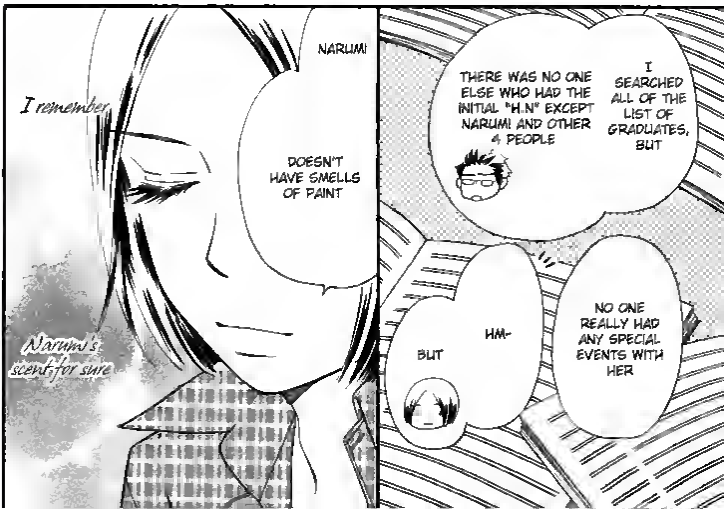
I want to
share seven lights of the world
instead of sharing a closed box

WHO SMILE AND GET MOVED,
AN UNEXPECTED AMOUNT OF PEOPLE.
IT'S LIKE A LIE, ISN'T IT?
with Narumi
I'LL COME HERE AGAIN

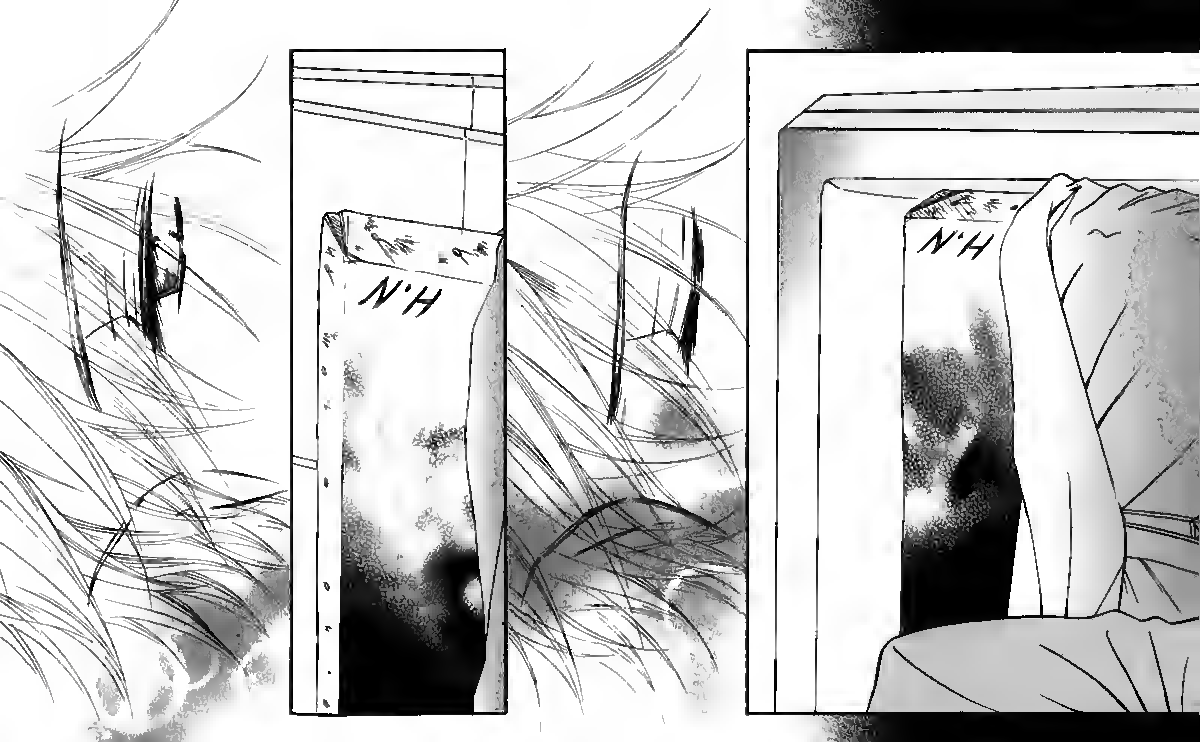
a normal person can't clean a room like this
yea
RUBBISH! YOU HAVE TO CALL A PROFESSIONAL AND CLEAN THAT UP!
THEN, SEE YOU!
HIN

Mm-
I WANTED TO INVOLVE NARUMI
WELL I JUST FELT LIKE-
Sorry...
I THINK YOU FORGOT THAT HARUKA'S MOTHER LENT IT TO US--!
It's a very important drawing--
SLURP
I'LL GO FOR IT LATER
ANY-WAYS
I TOLD HIM THAT I'D GO VISIT HIM AGAIN...
WHAT?
YOU LEFT THAT PAINTING AT NARUMI'S HOUSE?!
AND ON PURPOSE?!
WHY?!
I HONESTLY DON'T WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE THIS, BUT
HARUKA'S 'EX BOYFRIEND'
I THINK NARUMI'S THE CLOSEST.

He has H.N as his initials
H.N
but
and has acryl smell on him
and someone who's warm and tender.
He's someone who definitely
hurt one person and one life
END
whatever the reason is
"THEN, THAT MEANS SHE HAD ABORTION?"
"HARUKA HAD THAT MAN'S CHILD."


I remember
NARUMI
DOESN'T HAVE SMELLS OF PAINT
Narumi's scent for sure
I SEARCHED ALL OF THE LIST OF GRADUATES, BUT
THERE WAS NO ONE ELSE WHO HAD THE INITIAL "H.N" EXCEPT NARUMI AND OTHER 4 PEOPLE
NO ONE REALLY HAD ANY SPECIAL EVENTS WITH HER
HM-
BUT

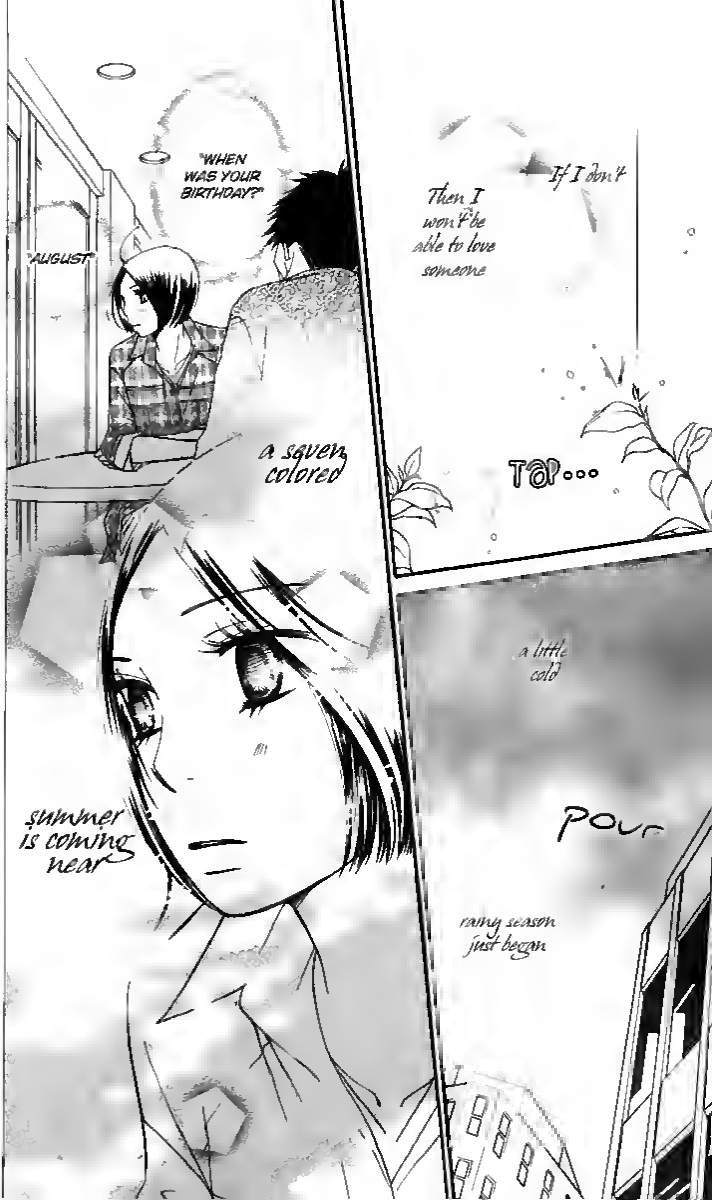
I want to trust him
IS THIS ALL THE GARBAGE?
NARUMI
the amount of garbage is unbelievable
YES~
AH! ARE YOU GOING TO THROW AWAY THAT PAINTING TOO?
H.N
AH... THIS...
He's someone who does everything his way
a bad boy
but then again
When I think of his hand's warmth
that touched me so lovingly

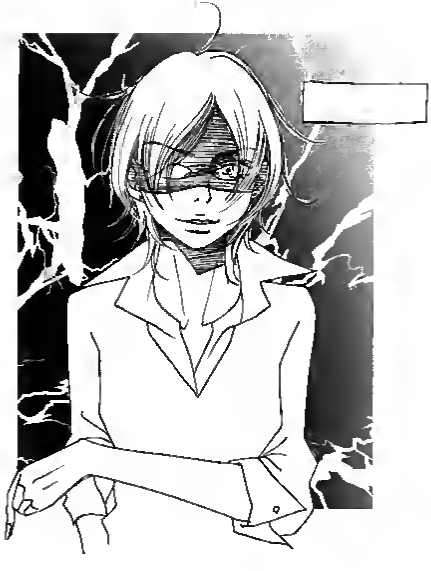

H.N
H.N

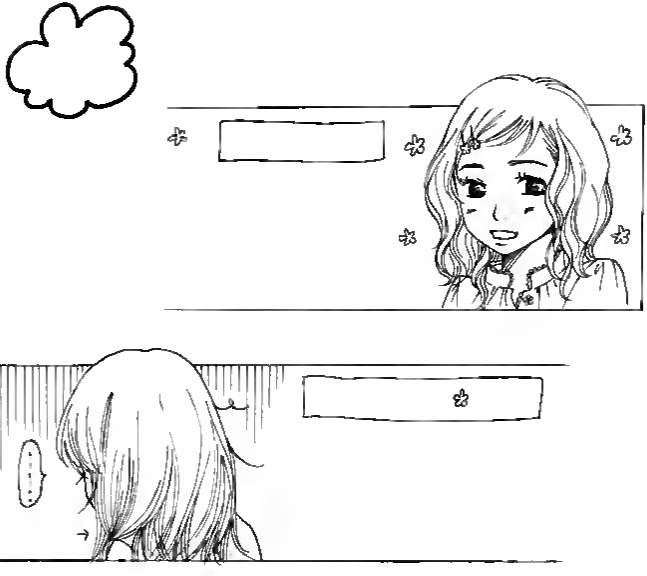
EGGS
YOU CAN'T EAT THEM RIGHT?
I KNOW THAT.

DON'T
INTERFERE ANYMORE.
H.N

...MIZUKO
it might be connected through that
AND HE MAYBE HE DIDN'T EVEN GRADUATE YET.
YEP, WE SHOULD.
THEN LET'S FIND 'SOMEONE WHO DRAWS'
who was in art club or something
you were siding with Narumi
NO, JUST
EH?
YOU, DID SOMETHING HAPPEN BETWEEN YOU AND NARUMI?
DON'T WORRY
I want to become strong
. . . JUST BE CAREFUL TO NOT GET HURT
I don't like that guy


"WHEN WAS YOUR BIRTHDAY?"
"AUGUST"
a seven colored
summer is coming near
If I don't
Then I won't be able to love someone
Tap...
a little cold
Pour
rainy season just began





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